

## TON-YR-YWEN PRIMARY SCHOOL



### INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY POLICY (TYIIT)

At school we equip children to participate in a rapidly-changing world through the teaching of relevant and current IT skills using the resources available. We enable them to find, explore, analyse, exchange and present information. We believe IT skills should be holistic and integral through areas of learning. IT skills are a major factor in enabling children to be ambitious, confident, creative and independent learners.

#### **Aims and objectives**

The aims of IT are to enable children:

- to develop IT capability in finding, selecting and using information;
- to use IT for effective and appropriate communication;
- to monitor and control events both real and imaginary;
- to apply hardware and software to creative and appropriate uses of information;
- to share and exchange information safely through electronic means including the internet and e-mail;
- to apply their IT skills and knowledge to their learning in other areas;
- to use their IT skills to develop their language and communication skills;
- to explore their attitudes towards IT and its value to them and society in general.

#### **Teaching and learning**

As the aims of IT are to equip children with the skills necessary to use technology to become independent learners, the teaching style that we adopt is as active and practical as possible. While at times we do give children direct instruction on how to use hardware or software, the main emphasis of our teaching in IT is for individuals or groups of children to use computers to help them in whatever they are trying to study. IT contributes to teaching and learning in all curriculum areas. For example, graphics work links in closely with work in art, and work using databases supports work in mathematics, and the Internet proves very useful for research in humanities subjects. IT enables children to present their information and conclusions in the most appropriate way.

The use of Interactive Whiteboards is embedded in each class through the school. They are used by class teachers to enhance teaching and learning across all curriculum areas. The children have access to the Interactive Whiteboard when appropriate for child-initiated play or study depending on the child's stage of development.

We recognise that all classes have children with widely differing IT abilities, possibly when children have access to IT equipment at home, whilst recognising that in a minority of cases some do not. Children should be taught to consider the sort of information they require to support their tasks and activities and how they might locate that information; to use an increasing range of IT tools and resources to find, process and communicate relevant information from a variety of given safe and suitable sources; to develop and communicate their ideas in appropriate ways with a developing sense of purpose and audience.

We provide suitable learning opportunities for all children by matching the challenge of the task to the ability and experience of the child. We achieve this in a variety of ways, by:

- setting common tasks which are open-ended and can have a variety of responses;
- setting tasks of increasing difficulty;
- providing resources of different complexity that are matched to the ability of the child;
- peer support e.g. mixed ability grouping
- using teaching assistants to support the work of individual children or groups of children.

### **IT curriculum planning**

The school uses the DCF and Science and Technology AOLE to help determine the appropriate curriculum which complements our curriculum vision. The IT skills taught are planned to build on prior learning. Children of all abilities have the opportunity to develop their skills and knowledge through planned progression built into contexts for learning. We offer children an increasing challenge as they move up the school, enabling those with enhanced IT skills to share their expertise.

### **Equal Opportunities**

At Ton Yr Ywen school, we teach IT to all children, whatever their ability and individual needs. IT supports the school curriculum policy of providing a broad, balanced and purposeful education to all children. Through our teaching, we provide learning opportunities that match the needs of all children including those with additional learning needs, and/or those with English as an additional language.

### **Resources**

Our school is continually working with the Local Authority and Friends of Ton Yr Ywen towards improving the quality and quantity of IT resources available throughout the school.

Ongoing technical support is provided by iTeach.

Along with the computers, the school has the following:

### **Hardware**

- colour printers;
- networked photocopiers;
- scanner;
- iPads / Chromebooks
- calculators;
- Bee bots;
- staff laptops
- microphones/headphones

### **Software**

All software is Local Authority approved and regulated.

In 2023 we introduced Seesaw as a tool for recording learning and sharing learning recorded digitally with families in years N-2. In 2024 this will be rolled out to include up to year 6.

### **Monitoring, evaluation and review**

Monitoring of the standards attained in IT is the responsibility of the Science and Technology AOLE Team. Leadership time is allocated in order to monitor planning, children's books/computer documents, resources and lessons. The results of monitoring are fed back to staff during INSET and to Link Governors.

The work of the AOLE team also involves supporting colleagues in the teaching of IT, being informed about current developments in the AOLE, and providing a strategic lead and direction for the AOLE in the school.

The IT curriculum leader produces a self evaluation report which evaluates the strengths and areas for development in the subject. This feeds into the schools Self Evaluation document which in turn feeds into the School Improvement Plan.

*Up-dated by:* Lucy Jackson and Christine Campbell      *Date:* 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2024

*Date approved by the Governing Body:*

*Date to be revised: October 2026*