

**Rosstulla School**  
**Together Towards Tomorrow**

**ICT Policy**

**Reviewed November 2015, Agreed by Governing Body**

**Rationale**

Information and Communications Technology (ICT) is concerned with the storage, processing, presentation and communication of information by electronic means. This includes the measurement, modelling and control of external events. ICT continues to evolve very quickly and has now become firmly entrenched in many aspects of everyday life, both at home and in the workplace. Information and Communications Technology can transform and enrich pupils learning experiences. It can allow pupils and staff to express and exchange ideas.

As ICT underpins today's modern lifestyle it is essential that all pupils gain the confidence and ability, that they need in this subject, to prepare them for the challenge of a rapidly developing and changing technological world. The use of ICT will also enhance and extend pupil's learning across the whole curriculum whilst developing motivation and social skills.

It encourages pupils to become more independent and flexible learners and supports collaboration amongst students and staff within their own environment and other schools.

**Purposes**

**Our commitment to developing ICT will:**

- Benefit pupils from years 1-13 and staff by providing ICT resources and equipment.
- Provide ICT teaching and training to pupils and staff.
- Encourage pupils to appreciate the relevance of ICT within our society and that they see it as an essential tool for learning, communication, finding information and for controlling and understanding the environment.
- Pupils will receive equal opportunity to develop their ICT capability with the use of ICT being planned for in line with its status as a core Northern Ireland Curriculum subject.
- Enable pupils to use ICT within and beyond the school environment and to understand the impact ICT can have on their future economic wellbeing.
- Enable pupils to gain accreditation in the area of ICT

**Planning**

ICT is currently taught using cross curricular links in line with the Levels of Progression in Using ICT. Skills are taught using meaningful contexts ensuring coverage of all areas.

Carole-Anne Stuart November 2015

Current resources and software are sufficient to support the delivery of some areas within the framework. Subject leaders are responsible for identifying any additional software or hardware requirements for their subject area.

In ICT, as with all subjects, in order to develop the continuity and progression of teaching and learning, a balance between whole class, individual and group work, and direct teaching, pupil investigation and skills practice should be planned throughout the school.

Staff confidence and expertise will be developed through training sessions provided by the ICT Co-ordinator, and external agencies.

### **Assessment**

On-going formative assessment is an integral part of good practice. Its main purpose is to enable the teacher to match work to the abilities and needs of the pupils and ensure progression in learning.

ICT capability should be monitored regularly in relation to the Levels of Progression in Using ICT. Teachers should assess children's knowledge, understanding and skills at the end of each year and assign a level of progression. This will then be stored centrally to track pupil progress. Levels are reported to parents at the end of KS2 and KS3.

### **Guidelines**

- The delivery of the subject across the Key Stages is planned in the context of the school's vision, mission and aims.
- The delivery of ICT extends to all aspects of school life and all areas of the curriculum.
- The delivery of ICT will be consistently applied across the key stages.
- All pupils will have access to a range of ICT equipment
- Financial and other resources will be distributed according to current developments and areas of need identified by audit and review
- Staff will be supported in developing their learning needs through the school's staff development procedures and subject coordinator
- The subject coordinator will identify and secure appropriate staff training and development in liaison with the curriculum team and within budgetary constraints

These guidelines are translated into action through other policies and procedures for example:

- Staff development policy
- Anti-Bullying Policy (cyber bullying section)
- Acceptable Use of the Computer Policy
- Acceptable use of the Internet and Digital Technologies Policy