Digital Technologies and Computing Science at Cadder Primary

At Cadder Primary, we are proud of how we use Digital Technology to enhance our learning experiences. Over the last two years, we have built a platform in partnership with our local authority to ensure there are foundations in place to allow pupils to engage in stimulating learning experiences.

Each child in P6 and P7 have their own iPad and an additional suite of iPads will be resourced throughout the rest of the school.

Digital technology is embedded in our classes, and all staff members are constantly developing their skills in Digital Technologies and Computing Science to enrich lessons. The staffs have a dedicated Digital Technologies WhatsApp group to share tips, tricks and informative clips. A Visual Learning Tool (VLT) has also been set up on GLOW to share practice in the local authority’s maths and numeracy programme: Glasgow Counts. Clips are recorded which exemplify good practice and shared online for staff and parents to visualise how to teach concepts.

We have a wide range of tools which we use in dynamic and creative ways. Our suite of desktop computers and laptops provide the ideal environment for more formal ICT lessons, while our mobile devices allow flexibility and spontaneity. All classrooms are equipped with computers and projectors. In partnership with the local authority, all newly installed projectors will be installed with Apple TVs.

Our pupils enjoy access to digital technologies for rewards during Golden Time. We offer a Coding Club which is proudly led by a parent. We have a proactive team of Digital Leaders who have taken on the responsibility for leading technologies in the school.

The school continues to build a relationship with the Apple Store and recognise that not all areas of the curriculum can best be covered and explored in school. Last year, learners from each class took part in Computing Science workshops with plans in place to happen in 2020.

Data plays a huge part in ensuring equity in our school. We use data to identify targeted intervention groups and positively discriminate pupil groups to ensure they receive the best support possible whether that be in the classroom or related to their general health and wellbeing.

Using technology for additional support for learning is an area we feel that we have developed greatly in. Pupils who have learning difficulties such as dyslexia or visual stress are starting to make use of voice typing and Book Creator. The quality of their work and motivation levels have improved considerably. Where the process of writing is a barrier to learning, pupils can record their thoughts via MS Word, Pages and Notes.

We use social media and digital means to communicate with our parents and the local community. We have published a couple of online Newsletters and other information through the website and our Twitter pages.

Staff work collaboratively via e-mail, WhatsApp and Microsoft Teams.

In May 2019, the school celebrated an amazing Digital Learning Week. This culminated in a KONE engineer demonstrating how VR technology is used in the world of work. Pupils from each class were able to interact and use this technology to gain an insight into the use of virtual reality in the workplace.