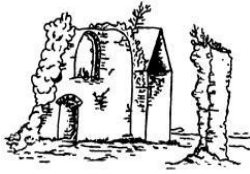# The Priory Catholic Voluntary Academy

Part of the Saint Ralph Sherwin Catholic Multi Academy Trust

Computing Statement of Intent

Intent – What we teach and why we teach it, ambitious for all.

The context of our school

At The Priory Catholic Voluntary Academy, our religious beliefs coined within Catholic social teaching are central to the provision throughout the whole school; and the foundation on which the ethos of the school is built. Every person is recognised as a unique creation of God; it is the intention of the school, for each child to be assisted in every way possible, to achieve their potential in Computing. It is essential that our approach to teaching Computing is accessible to all learners, regardless of background and any learners with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities. Every child is unique and special in the eyes of God, and we must give every child the best start to their learning journey by empowering them to become confident in using technology in a digital world.

Computing is part of the Primary National Curriculum and is a requirement for all the children across our school. At the Priory Catholic Voluntary Academy, we take a whole school approach to teaching Computing and in September 2021, began following The National Centre for Computing Education (NCCE) Teach Computing Scheme which is funded by the Department for Education and recognised by Stem learning. This scheme has enabled teachers to feel supported and ensures our curriculum is well sequenced and is progressive so that learning is ambitious for all and can be adapted when needed.

When planning and teaching Computing at The Priory Catholic Voluntary Academy, we believe that it is an essential part of the curriculum; a subject that not only stands alone but is woven throughout the curriculum and is an integral part of all learning. Computing, in general, is a significant part of everyone's daily life and children should be at the forefront of new technology, with a thirst for learning what is out there. Computing within schools can therefore provide a wealth of learning opportunities and transferable skills explicitly within the Computing lesson and across other curriculum subjects.

Through the study of Computing, children will be able to develop a wide range of fundamental skills, knowledge and understanding that will equip them for the rest of their life. Computers and technology are such an important part of everyday life that our children would be at a

disadvantage if they were not exposed to a thorough and robust Computing curriculum. Children must be taught in the art form of 'Computational Thinking' to provide them with essential knowledge that will enable them to participate effectively and safely in the digital world beyond our gates.

By the time they leave The Priory Catholic Voluntary Academy, children will have gained key knowledge and skills in the three main areas of the computing curriculum: computer science (programming and understanding how digital systems work), information technology (using computer systems to store, retrieve and send information) and digital literacy (evaluating digital content and using technology safely and respectfully). The objectives within each strand support the development of learning across the key stages, ensuring a solid grounding for future learning and beyond.

We aim to develop confident, independent learners who can plan, design, create, program and evaluate information through the use of technology. As well as the benefits of technology, we are also aware of the risks. This is why we teach our children how to stay safe online with equal emphasis on teaching 'Online Safety' in line with the expectations of 'Keeping Children Safe in Education'. It is our intention to enable children to find, explore, analyse and present information. We also focus on developing the skills necessary for children to be able to use information in a discriminating and effective way. We want children to know more, remember more and understand more in computing so that they leave primary school computer literate in readiness for secondary school.

Computing skills are a major factor in enabling children to be confident, creative and independent learners and it is our intention that children have every opportunity available to allow them to achieve this. We intend to build a computing curriculum that develops pupil's learning and results in the acquisition of knowledge of the world around them that ensures all pupils can understand and apply the fundamental principles and concepts of Computing.

We intend to build a computing curriculum that prepares pupils to live safely in an increasingly digital British society where pupils can evaluate and apply information technology, including new or unfamiliar technologies, analytically; to solve problems. Through instilling the WE CARE characteristics in our pupils, children at The Priory Catholic Voluntary Academy can engage with a high level of Computing and experiences available based on this.