Subject Report

Teacher: Laura Byrne **Subject: Computing / ICT** **Date: June 2025**

Computing / ICT at Holly Grove School is aimed to enhance our children's learning about computer technology as its use is widespread throughout the world today and is likely to become more so before our children mature and leave school.
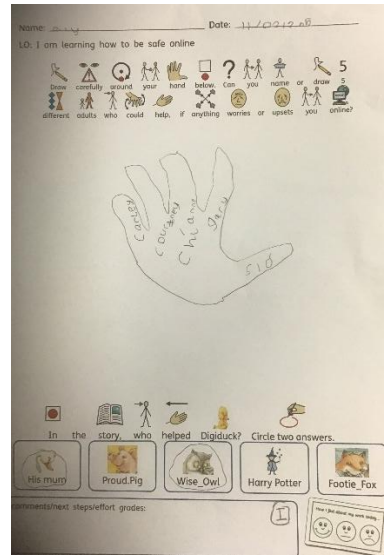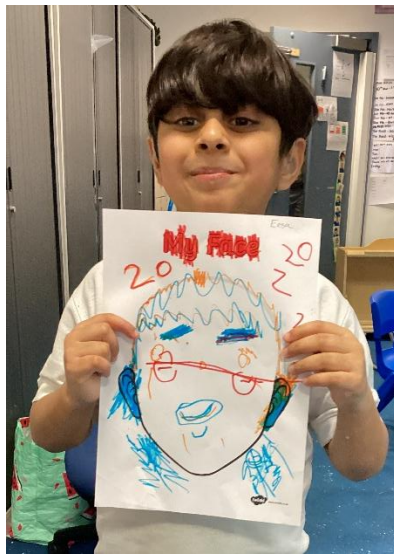
At Holly Grove School, we follow our own Scheme of Work (re-written in September 2023 in line with the National Curriculum's Computing programmes of study), which incorporates the three strands of Computing – Computer Science, IT and Digital Literacy (including Online Safety). The mapping grids, updated for each year group in 2023, have been reviewed and remain relevant as do the 'I can statements' to ensure progression across Phase 1 to Year 3 to assist teachers with planning. The Computing assessment tool (written in 2021) continues to be used effectively to measure children's annual progress and all children have progression maps to track their progress in other areas of Computing / ICT i.e. cause and effect, iPads, keyboards, online safety. I have also shared a mapping guide 'What Computing looks like at Holly Grove' with teachers, which provides differentiated examples / ideas for progression in each of our 4 curriculums e.g. cause and effect, sequencing, programming and coding.

With Computing / ICT being on the SIP this academic year, the main focus has been around Online Safety and boosting the use of ICT to support and enhance communication. There are now Online Safety displays in upper and lower school and we have appointed an Online Safety Ambassador, Joshua Collinge. Joshua has given an interview, helped organise Safer Internet Week, visited classes during the Safer Internet Week and is producing an article on Online Safety at Holly Grove. Our School Council have also been involved with updating the online safety rules and have made a video to share with school.

In February 2025, the whole school celebrated Safer Internet Week. Each class engaged in extra-fun learning activities about how to be safe online including creating avatars, re-capping online safety rules (see overleaf), partaking in quizzes and making posters / displays about being safe online. A special 'Online Safety' edition newsletter containing advice / support about online safety was also distributed to parents. There continues to be a strong whole school emphasis towards online safety and to ensure parents feel fully supported in this area, we provide regular updates about online safety and signpost them to free advice / resources from reputable websites via our school website and our school FaceBook page. I have also continued to attend the 'Nibble and Natter' sessions for parents / carers led by Shagufta Nasir, to discuss, answer questions and share information about keeping children safe online. Additionally, there will be weekly online safety training modules for parents to access at their own convenience.

Holly Grove's Online Safety team continues to meet every term and we work hard to ensure that we are following national guidelines and keeping up-to-date with all aspects of online safety including monitoring and filtering across school. Recently, we have completed the 360 Degree Safe review and are now aiming to gain the Online Safety Mark. I have also produced an acceptable user policy for our children to provide them with an understanding on how to use technology in school. Online safety training has also been provided for staff and governors and we have provided termly workshops for staff i.e. TD Snap, ChooseIT Maker, Eye Gaze, switches, Purple Mash, VRs, Music etc. all of which will have an impact on children's learning.

Finally, Michelle Grimshaw and I have worked closely with Jennette Greenwood from Inclusive Technology. Some of our children were filmed testing their new software 'Sensory Space' and this footage has been used to promote the software on their website and on YouTube. Next year, we hope to continue our links with Inclusive Technology and be part of their new assessment tool project.

Online Safety Rules (updated by the School Council in April 2025)

- I will always ask an adult to use the internet.
- I will always ask an adult to download a file, picture or video, as it could be a virus.
- I will always tell an adult if a stranger tries to talk to me online and I will never talk to strangers online.
- I will always keep my details safe (full name, date of birth, address, password).
- I will always be kind online.
- I will always respect other people online.
- I will never meet anyone I have been talking to online.
- I will always tell an adult I trust if anything makes me feel scared, uncomfortable or confused.