Computing in EYFS (Nursery and Reception)

The new EYFS curriculum came into force in September 2001. 'Technology' is no longer part of 'Understanding the World.' However, at the Federation of St Nicholas and Kirkby Malzeard School we feel that Computing and technology are still vitally important subjects to deliver to EYFS children. Not only will teaching a well-planned Computing curriculum ensure that children enter Year 1 with a strong foundation of knowledge, but Computing lessons in the EYFS also ensure that children develop listening skills, problem-solving abilities and thoughtful questioning — as well as improving subject skills across the seven areas of learning.

We live in a technological world and there is no escape from the reality that technology is integrated into the lives of young children. Just as we ensure the children in our care are ready for the adult world by teaching them maths and literacy, we should also make sure that they are fluent in computer literacy and all-important e-safety.

Computing in EYFS doesn't mean typing out a Word document or creating a code. In fact, teaching technology in the Early Years doesn't have to involve computer work at all!
Our approach to Computing in EYFS is centred around play-based, unplugged (no computer) activities that focus on building children's listening skills, curiosity and creativity and problem solving.

Technology in the Early Years can mean:

- taking a photograph with a camera or tablet
- searching for information on the internet
- playing games on the interactive whiteboard
- exploring an old typewriter or other mechanical toys
- using a Beebot
- watching a video clip
- listening to music

Allowing children the opportunity to explore technology in this often child-led way, means that not only will they develop a familiarity with equipment and vocabulary but they will have a strong start in Key Stage 1 Computing and all that it demands.

For further information please see the document 'What does Computing look like in EYFS?'