

Information and Communication Technology (ICT) Development at Rockwood Nursery School.

What is it?

ICT is everywhere and should be fun for children to explore in a safe and practical way, especially in their play and in everyday life such as using a till when shopping, accessing a computer game, taking a picture, using the microwave in the playdough area etc. ICT is important in everyday life, many forms of employment, science and technology, medicine, the economy, the environment and in public decision-making.

As children become aware of ICT around them, they will begin to understand what it is used for and explore different options to satisfy their needs.

When children play, they can begin to use ICT to solve problems and recognise how technology can help them.

All of these skills are built up by giving children lots of experiences through repetition, practice and simple problem solving. The children can access ICT resources both indoors and outside.



In the Revised EYFS, ICT Development is contained within the 'Technology' aspect of Understanding the World:

At Rockwood Nursery School we strive to:

- Enable children to become autonomous, independent users of ICT, gaining confidence and enjoyment from their ICT activities.
- Provide a relevant, challenging and enjoyable curriculum for ICT for all pupils.
- Use ICT as a tool to support and enhance teaching, learning and management across the curriculum.
- Respond to new developments in technology.
- Ensure ICT prepares children for their future life in an ICT dominant world.
- Provide children with opportunities to develop their ICT capabilities in all areas of the curriculum.
- To ensure ICT is used to teach other subjects when appropriate, to improve access to learning for pupils with a diverse range of individual needs, including those with EAL, SEN, disabilities or children who are Gifted and Talented.
- Maximise the use of ICT for effective and appropriate communication, including developing and maintaining links between other schools, the local community, parents and other agencies.
- Ensure e-safety and internet safety at all times (See relevant policy)
- Achieve Wellcomm targets by using ICT as a teaching tool- for example recording the children as they talk and communicating instructions to the children using talking tins.

What we do at Rockwood to support children's ICT Development

At Rockwood Nursery School we provide a continuity of experiences both indoor and outdoor throughout the school both within Family groups, nurture groups and continuous provision. The school also regularly promotes home school links via the school website, Facebook and Twitter. In Nursery ICT is taught in accordance with the Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum (EYFS) and guidance and is accessible to all children; specialised resources are bought when necessary. ICT is cross curricular and these links are exploited where appropriate and resources are used to their full extent. All children have access to a range of ICT resources and have opportunities to use a range of equipment such as torches, head phones, talking tins et al; to support their learning in all curriculum areas; these ICT experiences are used to enhance learning and help them learn about how ICT is used in the wider world.



Children's experiences are monitored daily and recorded on termly assessment sheets to ensure progress is made. Staff skills and knowledge are kept up to date and technical support is purchased to resolve some issues. The school regularly ensures virus software is updated and children have safe and secure filtered access to the internet. Internet agreements are signed by all parents to allow children to access the internet. The school regularly updates all Policies related to ICT and yearly reports are made to the governors on the progress of ICT via our ICT Link Governor; Joanne Scholes.

Staff at Rockwood Nursery School are experienced, enthusiastic and fully committed to promoting all children's ICT development, striving for children to achieve their full potential. Photographs of the children are taken during their Forest School session and often shown to parents on the television in the cloakroom. Staff work closely with parents to wholly assess children's development and promote learning.



Once in nursery, children then move from their group into the continuous provision either inside or outside. ICT occurs in all areas and is cross curricular but our adult led activities also ensure that children are provided with opportunities to meet their individual needs; at Rockwood Nursery School we work hard to provide a stimulating, rich environment for the children to enjoy with adults who enjoy spending time listening and talking to children, developing their ICT concepts, knowledge and understanding as they play.

We teach children to use digital cameras, complete activities on the interactive