



### Technology and Computing at The Walnuts?

The ability to use technology is a fundamental aspect of our culture. Technology is present in every aspect of modern life and at its most basic level allows us to manipulate and control the environment in which we live. For many pupils at The Walnuts School, using computers for learning and leisure can be a preferred activity because computers:

- are predictable, and therefore controllable
- enable errors to be made safely
- offer a highly perfectible medium
- give possibilities for non-verbal or verbal expression
- can be an aid to effective communication.

However, for pupils at The Walnuts, the use of technology is much broader than the use of computers. At its simplest level this will include learning about cause and effect, before progressing to learning how to operate electronic equipment by pressing buttons or switches or to using technology to make choices or communicate.

The core of computing is computer science and developing skills in this area will be appropriate for some pupils at The Walnuts. This will include teaching pupils the principles of information and computation, how digital systems work, and how to put this knowledge to use through programming.

An understanding of how to use computer technology allows us to extend our knowledge by accessing information beyond our immediate experience. When accessing information via the internet, pupils **must** be taught digital citizenship skills and how to keep themselves safe online. This may be a challenge for both teachers and pupils but will form a core part of the Technology and Computing teaching at The Walnuts School.

