Case Study: Sowe Valley Primary School

Sowe Valley Primary School discusses how Kapow Primary's Computing and Art and design schemes have positively impacted teaching and learning.

About Sowe Valley Primary School

Sowe Valley Primary school is a small, inner-city, one-form entry school with above-average numbers of pupil premium. With 191 pupils on roll, there are nine class teachers in total, one per year group and two part-time job share teachers.

How Sowe Valley Primary School describes itself:
"We value providing children with a broad and balanced curriculum full of rich and varied experiences. We strive for engaging content, particularly when using schemes of work, that provides an exciting and interesting approach to teaching key subjects."

How has Kapow Primary helped Sowe Valley Primary School?

Teachers sometimes struggled to ensure clear progression between year groups, which was solved using Kapow Primary for Computing and Art and design (we are currently considering DT, too!). Kapow Primary provides clear teacher videos that have upskilled staff in areas where they may have lacked the expertise required to deliver that subject to a high standard.

We found out about Kapow Primary through online research using teacher forums and asking within our network on schemes of work that had been used.

Why did you subscribe to Computing and Art and design?

We felt that these two subjects require a level of expertise from the teacher, which does not always come 'naturally'. In particular, we found our approach to teaching Computing was outdated and lacked the new developments in ICT. Kapow Primary provided clear teacher videos and a wide variety of content for Computing that suited exactly what we needed.

For Art and design, we were looking for a clear and progressive approach that allowed teachers to utilise the skill of modelling, and again we benefited from the teacher/pupil videos provided.

Kapow Primary was extremely easy to implement and is well-received among staff, including those at the beginning of their career and those with a wealth of experience.

Why did you sign up to Kapow Primary?

- To help increase the subject knowledge of teachers.
- To help increase the knowledge of pupils.
- To get access to high-level and skilful lesson plans.
- Because of the clear and transparent links to the national curriculum.
- To get access to the <u>knowledge organisers.</u>

What is the most helpful thing about Kapow Primary?

- Clear curriculum maps.
- Clear progression between year groups.
- Teacher videos to support CPD of staff, subject knowledge and expertise.
- Detailed lesson plans and accompanying lesson resources.

Kapow Primary has enabled staff to have a clear vision for their year group

and how learning looks for Art and design and Computing. The detailed and easy-to-follow lesson plans mean that staff are teaching at a high standard in subjects for which they may not naturally have the 'expertise'. Pupils are clear about the learning and make good use of the knowledge organisers too.

What impact has Kapow Primary had on teaching and learning?

Teachers spend less time planning and resourcing lessons because they can use the Kapow Primary lesson plans and resources to ensure that key skills are being taught, meeting the national curriculum and broadening children's understanding. Also, teachers are confident in using Kapow Primary and enjoying the outcomes produced by children, particularly in Art and design. Where staff are finding areas more challenging, e.g. using Python in Computing, they can utilise the teaching videos to help build confidence, which has been really positive and helpful.

Year 3 have particularly enjoyed the Stone Age Art and design unit, and Year 6 have enjoyed the 'make your voice heard' unit, which nicely linked to our learning about WW2. We also used the 'Bletchley Park' Computing lessons, complementing the Year 6 curriculum. The children were highly engaged and motivated by this. In Year 5, children loved the drawing of sweet wrappers and were highly engaged by this lesson.
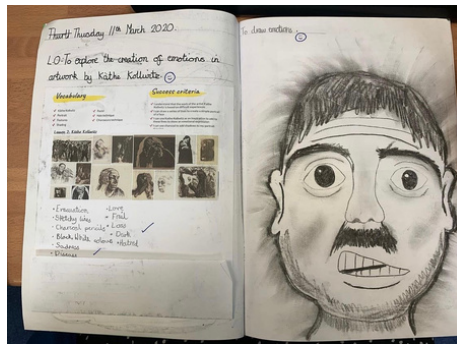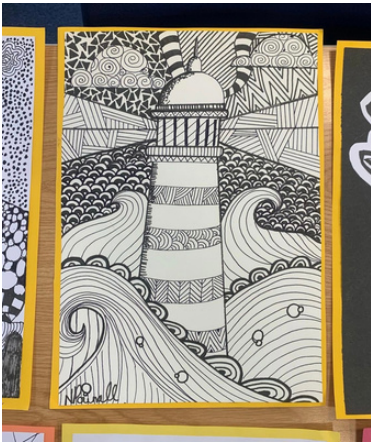
Which supporting materials have you found the most helpful?

Having been inspected by Ofsted (November 2021), we were able to make good use of the 'deep dive toolkits' to prepare coordinators in Art and design and Computing for the level of questioning they could expect. We have found the 'progression of skills' documents also incredibly useful in upskilling our leaders and teachers and providing the confidence to talk about what progression looks like in Art and design and Computing at our school.

Have you ever had cause to contact Kapow Primary?

Only to share our children's outcomes – which we were delighted with!!

Impact

Kapow Primary has transformed the teaching of Art and design and Computing at Sowe Valley. Staff confidently deliver well-planned, skill-rich lessons with confidence, and children respond with high levels of engagement and positivity. Children are proud of their outcomes and enjoy talking about their learning since using Kapow Primary!