Cultural Capital

When we consider cultural capital in relation to a child starting their journey of learning in a school setting, it's the idea that they all have started school with their own experiences and knowledge. These experiences and knowledge will link to their culture and wider family. Pierre Bourdieu, a French sociologist, developed the concept of cultural capital in the 1960s, arguing heavily that children's attainment in schools was not defined by solely economic factors. Various research indicates a strong correlation between the value placed on children's cultures and the progress they make in formal education settings.

It's important to note that cultural capital shouldn't be defined as just academic achievement, cultural capital should be thought of enabling a child to grow into educated citizens who have had broad experiences and knowledge with a strong appreciation of human achievement and creativity.

Cultural capital is one of the key things that a child will utilise throughout their life in order to become successful in society.

How Schools Play A Part

Schools have a duty to ensure that their children are given a rich educational diet that supports the notion of Cultural Capital.

Schools should consider several key things:

- **Culturally relevant pedagogy:** Embracing all their children's cultural identities, personal experiences, knowledge, and heritage in order to make learning more relevant to them and in thus doing so, giving rise to greater engagement and subsequently greater achievement.
- **Culturally responsive teaching:** Using a range of teaching strategies that supports children's personal experiences and cultural identities.
- **Provision:** Providing broad and rich experiences that their learners may not have experienced before, including the immersion of different cultures, traditions and approaches to everyday activities.
- **Knowledge:** Giving children a diet of knowledge that supports them in becoming educated citizens.

Purple Mash Computing Scheme of Work and Cultural Capital

We understand the importance of supporting opportunities for all children. Our future workforce should reflect a broad cross section of society, including but not limited to: age, gender, race, religious beliefs, cognitive and physical differences. If we consider computing and the potential career opportunities and pathways this may lead to, it's vital that a broad workforce is in place, particularly when decisions on design and implementation of systems is

required to limit bias. Computing should be integrated within different cultures and experiences of people, for example, farmers using technology to maximise yield of crops.

The Purple Mash Computing Scheme of Work is a comprehensive set of resources aligned to the National Curricula for Computing, Technology and Digital Competence. The Scheme of Work is intended to facilitate teachers in achieving the very best outcomes for all children. It exposes children to a wide variety of digital tools, technological skills and innovations to enable them to become informed members of the digital community.

It contains everything that is needed to deliver inspiring and engaging lessons whilst allowing for the flexibility to meet individual school needs. The scheme provides the scaffolding for teaching key skills alongside the flexibility to change the context to meet needs of individuals. For example, relating graphing to the local environment; tailoring blogging to individual cultures, experiences and interests. Lessons are delivered from lesson plans with accompanying slide shows. We have included additional units that go beyond the expectations of National Curricula, whilst also providing 'Catch-Up' units to close gaps in learning. The activity ideas for Early Years (Reception) show opportunities for using Mini Mash or Purple Mash as part of the Early Years classroom to support children in working towards early learning goals.

The scheme's flexibility is not just limited to adaptation of teaching approaches or contexts used within lessons. Functionality within the delivery platform allows for a range of devices to be used to access and deliver content. Additionally, features such as collaboratively enabled tools, means that children don't always require individual devices.

Supplementary resources such as Code Club and Digital Leaders give rise to opportunities for broadening horizons for all children regardless of their starting point. They support experience of leadership, developing skills and give exposure to new experiences and responsibilities such as leadership.