

Computational thinking for digital technologies

Year

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PO1

PO2

PO3

PO4

PO5

PO6

Use of computers
(Digital and non-digital contexts)

Non-computerised

Computerised (age-appropriate) & non-computerised

Computerised (age-appropriate) & non-computerised

Computerised (age-appropriate) & non-computerised

Computerised (age-appropriate) & non-computerised

Algorithmic thinking
(Decomposing problems and creating algorithms)

In authentic contexts and taking account of end users... (Technology strands underpin the PO's)

Break down simple tasks into precise, unambiguous, step-by-step instructions (algorithmic thinking).

Give the instructions.

Give and follow simple algorithms

Decompose problems into step-by-step instructions to create algorithms for computer programs.

Use logical thinking to predict the behaviour of the programs.

Understand that there can be more than one algorithm for the same problem.

Decompose problems to create simple algorithms using the three building blocks: sequence, selection, and iteration.

Independently decompose problems into algorithms.

Programming concepts

Programming
(Developing computer programs)

Testing & debugging
(Identifying and correcting bugs in algorithms & programs)

Create simple programs using algorithms they have developed using outputs & sequence

Develop simple programs that use inputs, outputs, sequence and iteration (repeating part of the algorithm with a loop).

Implement their algorithms by creating programs that use inputs, outputs, sequence, basic selection using comparative operators, and iteration.

Use their algorithms to create programs with inputs, outputs, sequence, selection using comparative and logical operators and variables of different data types, and iteration.

Determine when to use different types of control structures.

Identify any errors in algorithms as they are followed, and correct them (simple debugging).

Debug simple algorithms/programs

Debug their simple programs.

Debug simple algorithms and programs by identifying when and explaining why things go wrong with their instructions, and explaining how they fixed them.

Document their programs, using an organised approach for testing and debugging.

Principles of Computer Science
(Binary numbers, data representation, algorithm efficiency, error detection & human-computer interaction)

Understand that digital devices store data using just two states represented by binary digits (bits).

Understand: data representation using binary digits & error detection in data storage & transmission. Evaluate efficiency of: algorithms (search/sort data); interfaces (incl usability).

Understand how computers store more complex types of data using binary digits, and they develop programs considering human-computer interaction (HCI) heuristics.