Computing Hubs

Bishop Challoner Catholic College
Birmingham and Central Midlands

Your local computing news, events and updates

What support from the NCCE can teachers access this term?

Given the fiscal situation the new Government inherited, there have been difficult decisions to take on how money is spent right across the public sector to ensure that priorities are delivered upon. As such, the Department for Education (DfE) informed STEM Learning that Grant Funding support for the Computing Hub Network will not continue into the next financial year.

However, the Government will continue to fund the National Centre for Computing Education (NCCE) to support the teaching of computing and increase participation in computer science qualifications. Teachers will still be able to access high quality CPD and teaching resources to support and enrich computing lessons, ensuring all young people across England receive high-quality computing education post March 2025.

Read more

Teach Primary Certificate

This professional development programme has been designed to guide primary teachers through our comprehensive offer of courses, enrichment and resources and leads to a nationally recognised certificate. We expect it to take around 20 hours to complete.

There are two pathways under which we have gathered relevant courses and activities to help you advance your knowledge and experience of teaching primary computing.

- Specialising or leading
- Developing in the classroom

Discover here

These courses are part of Teach primary computing certificate and **FREE** for all teachers in state-maintained schools in England.

Face to Face CPD

Assessment of primary computing - Face to Face

Develop your confidence and knowledge in assessing computing across the primary age range.

Date: **24th February 2025 (Monday)**
Time: 9am-3pm
Venue: Perryfields Primary School, Apsley Road,Oldury B68 0QY

Click to book

Programming with the micro:bit - Face to Face

Explore how programming at Key Stage 2 can be enhanced with physical computing and the micro:bit.

12th February 2025 (Wednesday)
9am-3.30pm
Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School
Brays Lane, Stoke, Coventry CV2 4DW

25th February 2025 (Tuesday)
9am-3pm
Berrybrook Primary School
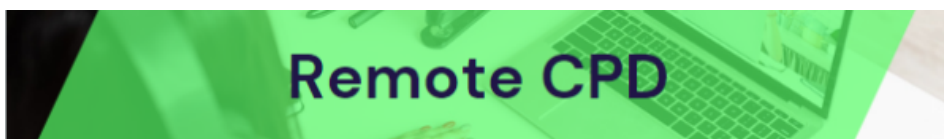Greenacres Avenue, Underhill Estate,
Wolverhampton WV10 8NZ

24th March 2025 (Monday)
9am-3pm
Bishop Challoner Catholic College
Institute Road, Kings Heath, Birmingham
B14 7EG

Click to book

Remote CPD

Computational thinking in primary schools - short course

A short course includes easily applied, practical approaches to assessing the development of computational thinking.

2 instances are coming up in March:

Date: **3rd March 2025 (Monday)**
Time: 3.30pm-5pm
Live Remote deliverd by MS Teams

Date: **7th March 2025 (Friday)**
Time: 3.30pm-5pm
Live Remote delivered by MS Teams

Click to book

Computing Quality Mark

Self-evaluation is the first step to improvement. The Computing Quality Framework helps schools to review their progress in developing an exemplary computing curriculum, ultimately resulting in achieving the Computing Quality Mark.

Register to the CQF

Congratulations to the following schools of our area achieved the Computing Quality Mark:

"We were delighted to be awarded our Computing Quality Mark recently. Children across the whole school have a real passion for the subject and are able to see the importance of developing their skills and knowledge in order to become successful global citizens. We have invested in the technology to enable us to access all areas of the curriculum but also in the time needed to develop essential transferable skills, both for staff and children. The support provided by our local Computing Hub has been invaluable in our journey toward achieving the Computing Quality Mark. Starting with CPD provided through the NCCE, the impact on outcomes in our school was fantastic. Additional support, including 1:1 discussion and training sessions with the Computing Hub, was hugely supportive, from offering practical advice to signposting initiatives and resources we were not aware of. Their assistance ensured we were on the right track at every stage. Thank you."

The John Bamford Primary School
December 2024

"In our school, computing is a vibrant and integral part of the curriculum, underpinned by the Teach Computing framework. We strive to create a fun and engaging environment, where students are encouraged to explore and innovate. Our students benefit from enriched opportunities through various STEM clubs and workshops held throughout the year, fostering their passion for technology and coding.

The support I received from the Cluster support team was both engaging and invaluable. Their guidance proved essential when applying for the Computing Quality Mark, as they provided constructive advice regarding what was lacking and what evidence was necessary to substantiate our statements. This collaborative effort not only helped us achieve the mark but also enhanced our computing provision, ensuring our students are well-prepared for the digital world ahead."

Birchills Church of England Community Academy
January 2025

Computing Quality Framework – driving change within your primary school - Remote short course

Find out how to use the Computing Quality Framework effectively to identify school needs and implement effective change to drive a high-quality computing education. A 90-minute short course can help you to achieve the CQM for your school.

Date: **13th February 2025 (Thursday)**
Time: 3.30pm-5pm
Live Remote delivered by MS Teams

Clicking to book you FREE place here

Primary Computing Enrichment Activities

Explore a variety of activities, challenges and opportunities designed to enrich your students' learning. Broaden their computing experience, inspire their curiosity and expand on what computing means to them in a fun hands-on way.

These activities can support you through the Teach Primary Computing certificate.

Find out more on the activities

Safer Internet Day - 11th February 2025

This years Safer Internet Day will take place on the 11th February with the following theme; Too good to be true? Protecting yourself and others form scams online. Below are some free live lessons on offer to enhance your provision for the day.

Natterhub are hosting free live lessons on the 11th. There is a session available for KS1, one for LKS2 and one for UKS2. These high-energy experience will engage students in interactive and meaningful lessons that align with the Safer Internet Day theme: "**Too good to be true**."

Tech she Can have a live lesson planned on the 11th Feb at 9am. This session provides practical, age - appropriate insights into cyber security while celebrating the digital world

responsibly and learning about the exciting world of cyber security careers.

[Explore more resources of Safer Internet Day](#)

Coding for climate action with the micro:bit

Coding for climate action is a series of lessons designed to encourages students to code micro:bits for early warning systems, addressing natural hazards and exploring climate change through project-based learning. The aim is to empower students to use technology and coding to tackle environmental. The unit aligns with the Teach Computing curriculum and can be used to replace one of the Year 5 programming units. Schools in Birmingham can also request a free workshop to start the project off.

Click for Full Details

UK Bebras
The Coding Challenge

The Coding Challenge is an event for UK students aged 10-19 who took part in this year's UK Bebras Challenge. It will run between **24th March and 4th April 2025.**

The new challenge has been designed to be **accessible to all students aged 10**+. There are five challenge groups, and teachers are able to enter students at the most appropriate level regardless of their age. For students who are new to coding, we have practice materials to help them prepare.

The aim of the 45-minute coding challenge is to enhance skills, build confidence, and inspire students to develop programmed solutions to computational thinking problems.

Click to Read More

Supporting learners with SEND with the National Centre for Computing Education

An excellent computing education not only equips learners with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) with essential skills for life and work, but also the chance for them to thrive in an exciting and rapidly developing field of study.

Read the new blog

Programme of Computing Courses for Primary Teachers 2024-2025

Our Programme of Computing Courses for Primary Teachers for 2024-2025 in the West Midlands and South-West England is live now!

Click to view

Stay updated with Birmingham and Central Midlands Computing Hub!
www.bctsa.org/computing-hub

Contact us for further information:
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For your local support, follow us on social media through X and Facebook.