

**Subject:** Computing

**Key Concept/ Theme:** Programming. Year 5 unit – Micro:Bit.

In this unit, pupils will develop their understanding of programming by using the Micro:bit. They will learn how to create algorithms, use variables, work with inputs/outputs, and debug effectively. Pupils will explore how physical computing interacts with the real world through purposeful design challenges.

**Skills and Knowledge for subject units:**

**Key Skills:**

- ✓ Decomposing a program without support.
- ✓ Predicting how software will work based on previous experience.
- ✓ Writing more complex algorithms for a purpose.
- ✓ Programming an animation.
- ✓ Iterating and developing their programming as they work.
- ✓ Confidently using loops in their programming.
- ✓ Using a more systematic approach to debugging code, justifying what is wrong and how it can be corrected.
- ✓ Writing code to create a desired effect.
- ✓ Using a range of programming commands.
- ✓ Using repetition within a program.
- ✓ Using logical thinking to explore software more independently, making predictions based on their previous experience.
- ✓ Identify ways to improve and edit programs, videos, images etc.

**Knowledge:**

- ✓ To know that a Micro:bit is a programmable device.
- ✓ To know that Micro:bit uses a block coding language similar to Scratch.
- ✓ To understand and recognise coding structures including variables.
- ✓ To know what techniques to use to create a program for a specific purpose (including decomposition).

**Vocabulary for unit:** algorithm, animation, app, blocks, bluetooth, code block, connection, create, debug, decompose, designing, desktop, device, download, images, input, instructions, laptop, load, loop, Micro:bit, outputs, pairing, pedometer, polling, predict, repetition, reset, sabotage, scoreboard, screen, systematic, tablet, tinkering, USB, variables, wi-fi, wireless, wires

**Federation/school specific areas to cover (Add in any local areas of study, trips and people)**

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| 1. | <p><b>Prior learning reconnection (year group, cycle &amp; term):</b> Basic understanding of input/output devices and block-based programming e.g. using 2Code (PM) or Scratch. Y4, Cycle A, Term 2&amp;5</p> <p><b>Cross – curricular links:</b> Science – understanding how inputs are similar to real-world triggers like light sensors or switches. DT – exploring how devices are constructed and the purpose of user interaction.</p> <p><b>LO: To tinker with a new piece of software (Micro:bit).</b></p> <p><i>Activity ideas to achieve the LO:</i> Introduction to the Micro:bit. Pupils explore the interface and simulate basic outputs (e.g., LED display).</p> <p><b>End point:</b> Pupils can identify basic components of a Microbit and create a simple programme using inputs (e.g., button A to show a message).</p> <p><b>Vocabulary focus for this lesson:</b> Microcontroller, LED, Input, Output</p> <p><b>Possible misconceptions to consider:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Pupils may think MicroBits work without any programming.</li> <li>- Confusing input devices with output devices (e.g., believing the LED display is an input).</li> <li>- Believing button A and B do the same thing by default.</li> </ul> |
| 2. | <p><b>Prior learning reconnection:</b> Familiarity with co-ordinates, block coding to manipulate visuals, simple loops (Scratch, Y4, Cycle A, Terms 2 &amp; 5)</p> <p><b>Cross – curricular links:</b> Maths (Coordinates): LED grid introduces basic x/y plotting concepts. Art: Using patterns and pixel art to design animations or icons.</p> <p><b>LO: To program an animation.</b></p> <p><i>Activity ideas to achieve the LO:</i> Use MakeCode to create basic animations or messages on the Micro:bit LED grid.</p> <p><b>End point:</b> Pupils can program the LED matrix to show custom icons or animations in response to inputs.</p> <p><b>Vocabulary focus for this lesson:</b> Algorithm, Sequence, Loop</p> <p><b>Possible misconceptions to consider:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Pupils may expect smooth images rather than pixel-based designs.</li> <li>- Assuming the LED grid is colour-capable.</li> </ul>   |

	<p>- Confusing the orientation of the grid (mixing up rows and columns).</p>
3.	<p>Prior learning reconnection: Pupils may have explored 'if statements' in advanced programming – Scratch, Y4, Term 5, Cycle A</p> <p><b>Cross – curricular links:</b> Maths (Algebra): Understanding variables as symbolic placeholders for changing values. PE: Linking to scoring or reaction-based games.</p> <p><b>LO: To recognise coding structures.</b></p> <p><i>Activity ideas to achieve the LO:</i> Design a program that responds to button presses (e.g., counter or reaction game).</p> <p><b>End point:</b> Pupils create a simple program that uses variables to track data (e.g., a counter for how many times button A is pressed).</p> <p><b>Vocabulary focus for this lesson:</b> Input, Condition, Event</p> <p><b>Possible misconceptions to consider:</b> - Thinking variables are permanently fixed after assignment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Using multiple variables when only one is needed.</li> <li>- Expecting the variable to display automatically without a show command.</li> </ul>
4.	<p>Prior learning reconnection: use of Loops in Scratch (Y4, Cycle A, Term 5)</p> <p><b>Cross – curricular links:</b> PSHE (Fair play, decision-making): Using chance-based games. Maths (Probability): Exploring randomness and fair tests.</p> <p><b>LO:</b> To create a program for a specific task</p> <p><i>Activity ideas to achieve the LO:</i> Create a step counter or temperature display. Focus on introducing and using variables.</p> <p><b>End point:</b> Pupils program a game using conditional logic and random number generation.</p>

	<p><b>Vocabulary focus for this lesson:</b> Variable, Data, Logic</p> <p><b>Possible misconceptions to consider:</b> - Confusing `if` and `else` blocks.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Expecting truly random outcomes each time without understanding limitations of pseudo-randomness.</li> <li>- Not resetting variables when replaying the game.</li> </ul>
5.	<p>Prior learning reconnection</p> <p><b>Cross – curricular links:</b> Science (Sound): Understanding how vibrations and frequencies create sound. Music: Using sound creatively, pitch variation and tempo.</p> <p><b>LO:</b> To create a program.</p> <p><i>Activity ideas to achieve the LO:</i> Pupils plan a mini-project (e.g., digital pet, timer) and present it to the class.</p> <p><b>End point:</b> Pupils incorporate sound or attach an external component (e.g., buzzer or servo) and control it via code.</p> <p><b>Vocabulary focus for this lesson:</b> Evaluation, Design, Purpose</p> <p><b>Possible misconceptions to consider:</b> - Believing sound will play from the MicroBit without a speaker/buzzer.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Confusing analogue and digital signals.</li> <li>- Miswiring external components, especially if using crocodile clips or breadboards.</li> </ul>
6.	<p>Assessment – see quiz and knowledge capture</p>

**Things to note:**

For a 6 week term 4 lessons and an assessment

For a 7/8 week terms 5 lessons and an assessment

The progression of skills and knowledge need to be thought about so that they are covered by the teaching and learning this term

**Adaptions:**

Examples could be:

- resources (technology, physical/concrete)
- Location of the lesson
- Groupings/.staffing support
- SEND/Inclusion

**Summative End Points: Which NC statements from the overview document are expected to be achieved or specifically developed?**

Pupils should be taught to:

- Design, write and debug programs that accomplish specific goals, including controlling or simulating physical systems; solve problems by decomposing them into smaller parts.
- Use sequence, selection, and repetition in programs; work with variables and various forms of input and output.
- Use logical reasoning to explain how some simple algorithms work and to detect and correct errors in algorithms and programs.