



PRIMARY COMPUTING

Glossary





Glossary of Terms

Abstraction

Taking the detail out of a something to make it easier to understand

Algorithm

Steps to follow to achieve a task

Boolean

A **variable** whose value can only be true or false

Browser

A computer program used to access the **World Wide Web**

Checksum

The total number of **packets** sent to/from a router

Code

See 'Program'

Computer

A device that takes **input**, processes it, then produces **output**

Computational Thinking

An analytical approach to 'problem' solving (involving **abstraction**, **decomposition**, **logical thinking**, **pattern spotting**, **evaluation** and **generalisation**)

Condition

Statements that only run under certain conditions (e.g. IF ... THEN ... ELSE ...)

Copyright

The legal right to choose who can use your work

CSS

Cascading Style Sheets – How web content is styled (Eg. font, colour etc.)

Debug

Finding and correcting problems with algorithms and programs

Data

Information that can be stored and transmitted by computers

Decomposition

Splitting things into smaller parts

Element (HTML)

An opening tag (e.g. <a>) and its closing tag (e.g.) with content inside of them, e.g. images and text

Evaluation

Is this 'good'? Can it be improved?





Glossary of Terms

FTP

File Transfer Protocol. A service for moving files

Function

A set of commands in computer programs that are grouped together and given a name so that they can be used more than once in a program

Generalisation

Adapting solutions already found to solve new problems

Hub

A device that joins a group of **computers** together

HTML

Hyper Text Markup Language: Standard way of creating and laying out **web pages**

Information

Data processed and/or presented to users in a meaningful way. For example, a large list of numbers is meaningless unless it is presented as, say, the ages of pupils in a class

Input

A way to give information to a computer (e.g. keyboard, mouse, touch, sensors etc)

Internet

A **network** of connected **computers**

IP Address

Numerical label assigned to each device on a computer **network**

ISP

Internet Service Provider. The company you pay to connect you to the **Internet**

LAN

Local Area Network. Computers connected together that are geographically close to each other (e.g. home or school)

Logical Reasoning/Thinking

Using rules to solve problems

Network

A group of computers that are connected (including the **Internet**)

Model

A representation of a real or imaginary situation

Output

A way to get information out of a computer (e.g. sound, images or motion)

Packet

Small pieces of **data** (text, pictures, sound)





Glossary of Terms

Pattern

Finding and using **repetition**

Program

Instructions written in a language (**code**) computers can understand

Repetition

Instructions that can be repeated until a condition is met – i.e. a loop

Search

Finding data that satisfies condition(s)

Selection

A way in computer programs to make choices (e.g. IF..THEN)

Sequence

A particular order to follow

Simulation

A type of computer model. Imitates a particular real-world system, situation or scenario

Software

Computer programs and applications (apps)

Tags (HTML)

HTML codes that are enclosed in angled brackets < /> : tell a computer what content to

put between them (e.g. text, images) and give a webpage structure

TCP/IP

Language computers use to communicate

URL

Uniform Resource Locator: a nickname (address) for a website

Variables

Names given to things we want a computer to store (remember). E.g. scores.

WAN

Wide Area Network. Computers connected together that are geographically far apart, even in different countries. The Internet is an example

Web Server

A computer connected to the Internet that provides access to (hosts) websites

Web Site

A collection of web pages

World Wide Web (WWW)

All of the web pages on the Internet, accessed using a web browser





Glossary of Terms

Wired

Devices that are connected using wires, usually cables

Wireless

Devices that are connected without wires or cables. They communicate via radio waves

