FAO: Primary and Secondary Headteachers, ICT and other Subject Leaders and Teachers/Support staff with an interest in computer programming

The Havering & Redbridge Computer Programming Network

Supporting the challenges of a changing curriculum - nurturing programming capability for the future

Is your school/academy ready for the potential challenges to be faced by an increased focus on computer programming and the opportunities presented by an economy hungry for new entrants with these skills?

Michael Gove, in his speech at BETT 2012 explained that in his view, the problem with current ICT curriculum is that it is “demotivating and dull, unsatisfactory at best”. There is not enough room for challenge and extension. By freeing up the curriculum, teachers’ freedom over what and how to teach will “revolutionise ICT as we know it”, providing a “return to the excitement of the BBC Micro in the 1980s.” Mr Gove also mentioned the idea that Computer Science could be considered as an option in the English Baccalaureate, if such a GCSE were to be developed to a high standard.

The examples Mr Gove cited as good and exciting practice are things that already happen in a number of Havering and Redbridge primary and secondary schools. His desire to see programming in Year 7 is already being exceeded in both Redbridge and Havering where we have Scratch embedded into many primary school curriculum plans.

Meeting the challenge
As a result, the Hsis ICT team & Redbridge ICT would like to invite a representative from your school/academy to join us for a pathfinder meeting to explore opportunities to support the teaching of computer programming across all phases.

Wed 4th July in Havering at Ceme, Marsh Way, Rainham, RM13 8EU
4.15 pm - 6.00 pm

OR

Thu 5th July in Redbridge at Ilford County High School, Fremantle Road, Barkingside, IG6 2JB
4.30 pm - 6.30 pm

** No need to book, just turn up **

Penny Patterson
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