Computing Resources

If you have a website/app that you think deserves to be on this list, add it and share the goodness!

Websites

Site Link	**What can it be used for?**	**What age is it most suited to?**
Blocky	Drag blocks together to build an application- no typing required!	6+
Scratch	Create stories, games and animations - Programming	6+
Kodu	Build games - Programming	10+
Python	Programming language	11+
Online Logo	A simplified version of Logo	6+
Bitesize Logo	Explanation, activities and quiz	9+
Ladybug Mazes	Provides an environment similar to Logo that allows you to create, try out and revise programs.	
Resources for Modelling effects on screen		
ICT Magic	An amazing site full of resources for everything! This link is specifically for Computer Game Builders, Coding & Programming, but there is lots, lots more!	

Apps

Name of app (and iTunes link)	Cost	What can it be used for?
 Daisy the Dino	Free!	A simple app that younger children love! Control how Daisy the Dino moves around the screen.
 Sketch Nation	Free!	Simple game that allows children to change the building blocks of a pre-programmed game. Although there's not a lot of programming involved, it allows children to see that elements of games can be changed and customised.
 Cargo Bot	Free!	A puzzle-based app that involves moving crates, within a fixed number of actions. Add 'programmes' to carry out repeated actions.
 Bee Bot	Free!	On the surface this is a pretty simple app. Get your children to guide the beebot from the start of the course to the end. Younger children could do this one step at a time, those serious programmers could write the instructions (algorithm) and then input it. If they make a mistake, the beebot will still follow all of the instructions, despite walking into a wall however many times! This is a great lesson in debugging. Have them work back through the algorithm and spot any mistakes.
 A.I.e.x.	Free!	Similar to the BeeBot app, but could be used with older children.
 Lego Mindstorms Factory	Free!	A simple game that is similar to Alec but with a Lego slant.

 Hakitzu Elite Robot Hackers	Free!	Moving into a text-based programming app for Javascript. Customise robots and settings to create your own game. that Victory is in the code!
 Gamepress	Free!	Although this app looks simple on the surface, there are lots of hidden settings and controls that you can build into your game. Control backgrounds, characters and controls to allow you to create your game from scratch.
 Python	69p Text	This app moves into text-based programming and so is a step up in terms of difficulty. Use Youtube to find some tips and advice on getting the most out of the app.

Further Reading

New Curriculum online
An introduction to Python!
Tips for teaching Computing for the first time

Blog post from Simon Haughton about the changes to the computing curriculum

Computing Advisory Group unpick curriculum and give example activities

This site gives suggested activities for covering the new PoS. The site may not be too exciting, but if you dig around there's a treasure trove of resources.

NAACE guidance on curriculum changes (with activity ideas)

A list of equipment/iPad apps to use in computing lessons

More activities for teaching computing- from Scratch to building your own app!
Review of various resources by Tony Pickford (Uni of Chester)
Scratch, Logo and Python lesson plans, ideas and models to understand computing concepts

How to teach outstanding computing- by Simon Haughton
Scratch, Logo and Python lesson plans, ideas and models to understand computing concepts
Programming and control This links to TES and all documents for scheme of work discussed at workshop. Save as Word doc and edit to suit.
Programme of Study from Somerset LA, split into year groups and units