

Year 13 Topics

In year 13 we teach the following topics over the course of the year. Each topic draws on prior learning from previous years and builds on understanding from the KS3 programme of study. Each topic develops and deepens the Core knowledge that will underpin all areas of the curriculum at KS5 and onward into undergraduate courses.

Learning Aim A – Understand the principles of website development				
Topic	Rationale	Knowledge acquisition	Key vocabulary	Skills and enrichment
A1 Purpose and principles of website products	Learners need to understand the purpose and principles of website products	Purpose of websites, including the features of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • content-based (Web 2.0 technologies) • product and/or service-based • target audience, e.g. social networker, seekers, gamers, buyers, age profile, gender • requirements, e.g. user-friendly, consistent, navigational, customisable, flexible 	Social networker, seekers, gamers, buyers, age profile, gender, user-friendly, consistent, navigational, customisable, flexible, wikis, blogs, online applications, podcasting, ecommerce, real-time information, download services, virtual learning environments, communication.	independence, problem solving, evaluation analysis, creativity literacy numeracy oracy research
		Principles of website design.	Usability, white space, site layout, accessibility, spacing, navigation, typography, alignment, clarity, consistency/intuitiveness, accuracy, content, media, simplicity.	
		Media and objects	Position, colour, contrast, size, appropriateness.	
		Creativity and innovation	Unconventional layouts, white space, 'outside of the box' thinking, golden ratio.	
		Search engine optimisation	Indexing (meta tags), use of keywords, importance of updates, limiting crawling.	

A2 Factors affecting website performance	Learners will learn about factors affecting website performance	Where scripts run (on the web server – server-side scripts, or the local client machine – client-side scripts).	Client side, server side, scripting, browser compliance, bandwidth availability, compression	independence, problem solving, evaluation analysis, creativity literacy numeracy oracy research
		Browser compliance, e.g. which elements are supported by different browsers.	Optimisation, device detection	
		Server-side factors	Bandwidth availability, number of hits, file types	
		Client-side factors	Upload and download speeds, browser, cache memory, processor speed, interactivity, broadband, narrow band, wireless, fixed line	
Learning aim B – Design a website to meet client needs				
Topic	Rationale	Knowledge acquisition	Key vocabulary	Skills and enrichment
B1 Website design	Learners will understand the steps involved in developing a design for a client website.	Problem definition statement requirements: intended audience, full summary of the problem to be solved, constraints, benefits, nature of interactivity, complexity of the website.	Milestones, feedback, black box testing, goes live, audience	independence, problem solving, evaluation analysis, creativity literacy numeracy oracy research
		Purpose requirements as defined in a client brief for their interactive website.		
		Application of website design principles by professionally created websites.		
		Initial design ideas/prototypes (illustrating design principles) and the requirements <ul style="list-style-type: none"> for an interactive website, including: diagrammatic illustrations, e.g. storyboard, mood board, wireframe, site maps realistic representations search engine optimisation alternative design ideas/prototypes, including compatibility with mobile/tablet devices 	Ergonomics, accessibility, minimalism, prototyping, interactive, static, Transport layer security (TLS), diagrammatic illustrations, storyboard, mood board, wireframe, site maps, representations, search engine optimisation	

		Client-side scripting design tools and techniques, e.g. pseudocode, flow charts (including use of British Computer Society (BCS) standard flow chart symbols) used to develop original code	Java, validation, runtime, pseudocode, flow charts, code, off the shelf, bespoke scripting, algorithm	
		Effective use of ready-made and/or original assets, e.g. a digital animation, digital graphic, digital audio and video, or any other combined assets.	Compression, digital animation, digital graphics, digital audio, digital video, combined assets.	
		Obtaining and using feedback from others to help refine alternative design ideas/ prototypes and make decisions.	Feedback, quantitative questioning, qualitative questioning, survey	
		Testing plan requirements and its completion with test data, to test functionality	Testing, functionality, test data	
		<p>Identifying technical and design constraints and working around them. Legal and ethical considerations applicable to the equivalent legislation in England, Wales and Northern Ireland:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 and its requirements in terms of protecting software products and digital media, such as images, music and films. • Data Protection Act 1998 and the requirements it places on organisations to keep data about living individuals secure. 	Malware, encryption, copyright, patents, data protection, GDPR, legal, ethical	

B2 Common tools and techniques used to produce websites	Students learn the use of tools and techniques and their suitability for different client requirements.	HTML, HTML5 and subsequent updates	Patches, back-compliance, HTML, HTML5, CSS, HTML, Inline, header, pixel perfect, open tag, close tag, title	independence, problem solving, evaluation analysis, creativity literacy numeracy oracy research Dreamweaver skills
		Tables	DIV tags, padding, border, row, column, span	
		Forms, text field, text area, buttons, radio buttons, check boxes.	Post method, forms, text field, text area, buttons, radio buttons, check boxes, input type, error	
		Navigation, menus, hyperlinks (internal and external), anchors.	Spry, widgets, Navigation, menus, hyperlinks, anchors.	
		Interactive components, e.g. hot spots, pop-ups, buttons, menus, rollover images.	Interactive components, hot spots, pop-ups, buttons, menus, rollover images, navigation	
		Colour schemes, styles and templates.	Colour schemes, styles and templates.	
		CSS, e.g. background colour, background images, text formatting, borders, padding, heading styles, element position	CSS, template, background colour, background image, text formatting, borders, padding, heading styles, element position	
		Embedded multimedia/digital asset content, e.g. digital animation, digital graphics, digital audio, digital video	Embedded multimedia, digital asset content, digital animation, digital graphics, digital audio, digital video	
		Accessibility features, e.g. alternative tags, zoom features, text-to-speech	Accessibility, alternative tags, zoom features, text-to-speech	
		The World Wide Web Consortium (W3C®) standards for accessibility and HTML compliance.	The World Wide Web Consortium (W3C®) standards, accessibility, HTML compliance.	
		Platform compatibility, e.g. browser, operating system, mobile devices.	Platform compatibility, browser, operating system, mobile devices.	
Exporting and compressing of digital assets into suitable file types.	Exporting, compression, digital assets, file types.			

Learning Aim C – Develop a website to meet client needs				
Topic	Rationale	Knowledge acquisition	Key vocabulary	Skills and enrichment
C1 Client-side scripting languages	Students learn about client-side scripting languages	Embedding of original client-side scripts into web pages to provide more interactivity and improve the usability of the website.	Embedding, client-side scripts, interactivity, usability,	independence, problem solving, evaluation analysis, creativity literacy numeracy oracy research Dreamweaver skills
		Types of web-scripting languages, e.g. JavaScript®, VBScript®.	Interaction, dynamic HTML, JavaScript®, VBScript®	
		Uses of scripting languages, e.g. alerts, confirming choices, browser detection, creating rollovers, checking/validating input, handling forms.	Scripting, alerts, confirming choices, browser detection, creating rollovers, checking, validating input, handling forms	
		Constructs, e.g. syntax, loops, decision making, functions, parameter passing, handling events, methods.	Constructs, syntax, loops, decision making, functions, parameter passing handling events, methods, objects, array, dot operator, RWD	
C2 Website development	Students learn about creation of interactive websites	Use of CSS	HTML tags, CSS frameworks, box model, access CSS from HTML doc types	independence, problem solving, evaluation analysis, creativity literacy numeracy oracy research Dreamweaver skills
		Use of original client-side scripting	Client-side scripting	
		Compatibility with mobile and tablet devices	Compatibility, mobile devices	
		Effective use of tools and techniques	Tools, techniques	
		The uploading of files to a web server or host computer/device.	Web server, web host	
C3 Website review	Students learn about reviewing interactive websites	Quality in comparison with other similar websites	Refinement, mean regression,	independence, problem solving, evaluation analysis, creativity literacy numeracy oracy research Dreamweaver skills
		Suitability for intended purpose and audience	Suitability, purpose, audience	
		Suitability against the client's requirements, including optimisation	Suitability, client's requirements, website optimisation	
		Legal and ethical constraints.	Legal constraints, ethical constraints	
		Strengths and improvements.	Strengths, improvements.	

C4 Website optimisation	Students will learn about optimising an interactive website	Performance and user testing	Website optimisation, HTTP requests, style sheets, CSS, compression, bandwidth, response time, WYSIWYG, oversized images, external style sheet, interactivity, feedback, compatibility, testing, test plan.	independence, problem solving, evaluation analysis, creativity literacy numeracy oracy research Dreamweaver skills
		Obtaining and evaluating feedback from others		
		Checking interactivity		
		Checking compatibility		
		Refinements and making improvements to meet client needs to optimise the website.		
C5 Skills, knowledge and behaviours	Students will learn about monitoring, reviewing and evaluating their own progress.	Planning and recording, including the setting of relevant targets with timescales, how and when feedback from others will be gathered.	Quantitative feedback, qualitative feedback, target setting, client requirements, professionalism, etiquette, supporting others, time management, appropriate leadership, accountability, individual responsibility	independence, problem solving, evaluation analysis, creativity literacy numeracy oracy research Dreamweaver skills
		Reviewing and responding to outcomes, including the use of feedback from others, e.g. IT professionals and users who can provide feedback on the quality of the website and their suitability against the original requirements.		
		Demonstrate own behaviours and their impact on outcomes to include professionalism, etiquette, supporting others, timely and appropriate leadership, accountability and individual responsibility.		
		Evaluating outcomes to help inform high-quality, justified recommendations and decisions.		