

## **Primer Computing**

Suitable for children from 5 years upwards, the Primer Computing course is designed to introduce students of all ages to computing. Teaching both the practical and theoretical aspects of Information Technology, the course also incorporates Visual Basic, a widely used programming language for the PC.

The theoretical aspect of the course concentrates on the basic concepts of computing, providing a useful core knowledge for a student when progressing to a GCSE course, whilst the practical aspect teaches programming skills, awareness and use of industry-standard application software.

### **Key Course Areas**

#### **Practical**

Through a series of exercises in small groups students learn how to program using Visual Basic, a 'Windows' compatible programming language, writing programs covering:

- Form navigation
- Animation
- Simple database storage/retrieval

In addition, the course teaches the use of software applications such as word processing, database and spreadsheet applications as well as desktop publishing and graphics software.

#### **Theory**

The theoretical aspect of the course covers a wide range of topics including:

- Computer architecture
- Computer personnel
- Business applications
- Networking
- Measurement and control

### **Course Details**

Length of course: 9 months (variable)  
Weekly Lesson Hours: 2 hours

*"Our IT courses help develop skills in spelling and grammar. If a spelling mistake is made in a computer program, the program will not run. If a mistake is made in the grammar of the language, the program will again fail with a syntax error. Programming forces correct spelling and correct grammar..."*  
**Mike Ryde**

*"Children have a natural ability to learn which disappears with ageing..."*  
**Mike Ryde**

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