

7 top tips to help your child with secondary computing

Here are some fun and interesting things you can do together at home over the summer – and they will improve your child's understanding and appreciation of computing!

1

Keep it real. Young people spend a lot of time online, and keeping current on what's hot, and what should be avoided, can be a challenge. There's tons of guidance at the [UK Safer Internet Centre](#) to keep what they do safe. It offers the same advice that teachers receive via their own courses and resources through the [National Centre for Computing Education \(NCCE\)](#) so young people get consistent guidance at school and home.

2

Be inspired. Creative projects are a great way to boost confidence over the summer, building on existing knowledge while working towards making something to be proud of. Make a website, create music or animate your favourite cartoon character. [Code Club projects](#) are simple to follow and rewarding to do. When schools return, talk to teachers about maintaining the inspiration by starting or joining a [Code Club](#) or [STEM Club](#).

3

Go exploring. Computing is all around you. Digital devices are embedded into unexpected places, hidden in plain sight. Take a look at the mysterious street boxes, controlling traffic lights or routing broadband, that you pass every day. Find embedded devices in washing machines, ovens, cars - and think about the [many jobs done by people who put them there](#).

4

Get creative. Learning to program computers is a key skill - not just in computing but in many other areas of life. Learning at your own pace is a great way to develop new skills and consolidate existing knowledge - the free tools are in your hands! Whether you're learning to program with blocks or text, our [free programming resource collection](#) has what you need to get started.

5

Challenge yourself. At Isaac Computer Science, A level computer science students can [complete a monthly gameboard challenge](#) for a chance to win a Raspberry Pi computer - while improving core knowledge that relates directly to their exams and assessments. There's also loads of resources to help students on the [Isaac Computer Science](#) website.

6

Grow together. With life moving increasingly online, cybersecurity expertise is accelerating as a future career, helping to keep our devices and services stay safe from the threat of attack. This summer, join [free residential and online courses in cybersecurity from CyberFirst](#). A partner of the NCCE, [CyberFirst](#) develops the next generation of cyber professionals and is led by the National Cyber Crime Centre at GCHQ.

7

Build it in. Develop stronger computing knowledge and skills, and close any gaps in learning, through a rich range of activities and information sources. Explore a variety of activities and challenges that can be used to support children's computing education from home in our [home learning pages for secondary computing](#).