A Quick Guide to Preparing for the 2014 Computing Curriculum

For all who are looking to prepare for the 2014 Computing Curriculum, there are a few tips and supporting materials that will be helpful.

- The new Computing national curriculum reflects the 3 aspects of the subject – computer science **AND** information technology **AND** digital literacy

- Use the Joint Guidance from Naace and CAS to understand what each of the points in the new national curriculum means in plain English - http://bit.ly/19uyimX

- A school Computing curriculum should contain a **balance** of computer science, information technology and digital literacy

- Computer science, information technology and digital literacy are interconnected and interdependent – in practice, a sequence of learning usually contains a mix of all these aspects

- Remember – the school curriculum is not the same as the national curriculum – you have the freedom and flexibility to develop your own curriculum in line with the values, ethos, aims of your own school – think of the national curriculum as the skeleton which you are going to flesh out with your school curriculum

- A school Computing curriculum should be broad and balanced – check out the scheme of work criteria produced by the Naace curriculum panel - http://bit.ly/1iVkvGy

- Programming is an important part of the new curriculum – the scariest part for many – but is not the whole curriculum!

- There is lots of support out there – check out the CAS/Naace Guide for Primary Teachers - bit.ly/K2J9Ja; guidance from the Naace Assessment Panel plus Progression Pathways - bit.ly/19uDmYj; and a range of free resources from Point2Player to support the new curriculum - bit.ly/1d6W5UL.

- There's lots of professional development opportunities out there too! Check out the Naace/AQA PDE programme www.naace.co.uk/events/aqa and other professional development opportunities www.naace.co.uk/pde. Many of our Naace members are currently offering professional development to schools and teachers and there is also a range of support from the CAS community, who are often particularly experienced in computer science aspects of the curriculum.

- It is up to schools to choose when the use of technology is appropriate to support teaching and learning in other subjects – check out the latest tablet pedagogy study - bit.ly/1a9X8sS

All these links are available via www.naace.co.uk/curriculum.

First steps towards Computing……..

De-geeking the language

What does each term mean? *Use the Joint Guidance for clarification*

Audit existing curriculum

What are you already doing from the new curriculum?

Audit staff confidence and skills

What professional development needs can be identified? *Check out Naace PDE and watch out for Naace materials on Rising Stars' Essential CPD…*

Identifying the opportunities

What could be done better? What new things should be included?

Check the Naace scheme of work criteria

What exciting learning contexts will inspire your pupils?

Will you be using projects?

How will you involve all colleagues in the development of your new curriculum?

Whether you choose develop your own school curriculum or adapt a commercial scheme, remember to keep your school aims in mind!

How will you provide assessment for learning in your new curriculum now there are no levels provided by the government?

Check out the Assessment guidance from Naace and in the CAS/Naace Guide for Primary Teachers – and watch out for the Naace Standards Library

How will you involve pupils as you begin this journey?

Why not harness the enthusiasm and skills of pupil digital leaders?

How will you manage the infrastructure, resources and professional development for the new curriculum?

Check out the Naace Self-review Framework for sensible approaches to strategic leadership

How will you make sure you have access to a wide range of balanced advice and support?

Join the Naace community and become part of a long established, experienced and respected professional organisation
www.naace.co.uk/membership

*Preparing for the new Computing curriculum is the **first step** in a journey towards a successful implementation … eating a big elephant is best done in bite sized chunks!*