Year 7 – Gaining support for a cause

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## Unit introduction

During this unit, learners develop their understanding of information technology and digital literacy skills. They will use the skills learnt across the unit to create a blog post about a real-world cause that they would like to gain support for. Learners will develop software formatting skills and explore concerns surrounding the use of other people’s work, including licensing and legal issues.

## Overview of lessons

| **Lesson** | **Brief overview** | **Learning objectives** |
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| 1 Features of a blog | In the lesson learners will find out about blogs. They will review an organisation’s blog and compare it to their website. Learners will review common text formatting tools and explore how styles can be used to provide consistency across posts. Lastly, learners will note down the common features of blogs. | * Explain what a blog is * Use styles to reformat text * Outline common features of a blog post |
| 2 Licensing appropriate images | In this lesson, learners will build on the document that they formatted last lesson and will add appropriate images to it, applying relevant formatting techniques.  Learners will look at a selection of images and discuss which image they think would be appropriate for the given scenarios.  Next, learners will be introduced to copyright law, and then they will watch a video about Creative Commons licensing. Learners will complete an activity in which they have to allocate the appropriate Creative Commons licence in the given scenarios.  Learners will add images to their document, then complete a peer feedback activity. Time can then be allocated for the learners to make changes based on the feedback. | * Select appropriate images for a given context * Apply appropriate formatting techniques * Demonstrate an understanding of licensing issues involving online content by applying appropriate Creative Commons licences * Demonstrate the ability to credit the original source of an image |
| 3 The credibility of sources | The purpose of this lesson is for learners to understand that not all information found on the internet is reliable or trustworthy. Learners will look at techniques to use to help determine the credibility of a source, and then apply these skills by writing an article that could be real or fake. Learners will then look at each other’s work and try to determine whether or not the article is credible.  Learners will then work on forming an idea for their project. Homework for this lesson will be to identify the audience for their chosen cause. | * Critique digital content for credibility * Apply techniques to identify whether or not a source is credible |
| 4 Research and plan your blog | In this lesson, learners will conduct and document research on the cause that they have chosen to support. They will learn about documenting and crediting sources to avoid plagiarism. They will also look at examples of blogs and be able to identify common features, as well as the different methods of citation used. Learners should use the techniques learnt last lesson to explain why they think that the sources are reliable. | * Apply referencing techniques and recognise the concept of plagiarism * Evaluate online sources for use in own work |
| 5 Promoting your cause | Learners will be introduced to the software that they will use to make their blog (Google Sites, Microsoft Sway, Wordpress, presentation software).  Learners will use their research document from the previous lesson to create their blog.  Learners will spend time giving feedback on each other's work. | * Construct a blog using appropriate software * Create content for a blog based on credible sources * Apply referencing techniques that credit authors appropriately * Design the layout of the content to make it suitable for the audience |
| 6 Project completion | In this lesson, the learners should continue creating the blogs that they started to make last lesson. They should finish and submit their work on their blogs during the lesson. Learners should refer to the rubric for assessment. | * Construct a blog using appropriate software * Create content for a blog based on credible sources * Apply referencing techniques that credit authors appropriately * Design the layout of the content to make it suitable for the audience |

## Progression

This unit progresses students’ knowledge and understanding of licensing and legal issues surrounding the use of online sources of information. They will also gain an understanding of how to apply techniques to help determine the reliability of a source. Learners will develop practical skills in using software to make a blog that could be published online.

Please see the learning graph for this unit for more information about progression.

## Curriculum links

[**National curriculum links**](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/239067/SECONDARY_national_curriculum_-_Computing.pdf)

* Undertake creative projects that involve selecting, using, and combining multiple applications, preferably across a range of devices, to achieve challenging goals, including collecting and analysing data and meeting the needs of known users
* Create, reuse, revise, and repurpose digital artefacts for a given audience, with attention to trustworthiness, design, and usability

[**Education for a Connected World links**](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/683895/Education_for_a_connected_world_PDF.PDF)

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### Managing online information

* I can use a range of features to quality assure the content I access online. (11–14)
* I can explain how to use search effectively and use examples from my own practice to illustrate this. (11–14)

**Copyright and ownership**

* I know that commercial online content can be viewed, accessed, or downloaded illegally. (11–14)
* I can accurately define the concept of plagiarism. (11–14)
* I can use this definition to evaluate my own use of online sources. (11–14)
* I understand the concept of software and content licensing. (11–14)
* I understand Creative Commons Licensing protocols. (11–14)
* I can identify the potential consequences of illegal access or downloading and how it may impact me and my immediate peers. (11–14)

## Assessment

### Summative assessment rubric

* Please see the assessment rubric document for this unit.

## Subject knowledge

In each lesson plan, you will find lesson-specific notes providing additional background knowledge, as well as links to external sources.

Enhance your subject knowledge to teach this unit through the following training opportunities:

**Online training courses**

* [Teach Computing in Schools: Creating a Curriculum for Ages 11 to 16](https://rpf.io/teachcomputing)

Resources are updated regularly - the latest version is available at: [the-cc.io/curriculum](http://the-cc.io/curriculum).



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