



Welcome

Each term we intend to bring you news related to the Essex Primary ICT Curriculum (e-pic¹) including ideas for resources, planning and assessment with Flippi.

If you are reading this on paper and want to see details of any of the items then go to the www.e-pic.org.uk/news² website where you can see the newsletter with all the hyperlinks. From the same page we invite you to complete our feedback form so we know how best to support schools and may help you in developing ICT in your school.



Ready for the wind of change

Next spring we expect to see the recommendations from Sir Jim Rose's [review](#)³ of the primary curriculum. And later we will begin to see details of the changes.

We can already see changes in the way schools integrate the ICT Programme of Study and address the issues of key skills and our Essex Primary ICT Curriculum supports the changes you are already making.

What changes are you hoping for?

Ofsted What needs to be done?

In response to a recent report into ICT in schools [Ofsted](#) indicated that:

- Schools need better guidance on evaluating ICT development and its impact on whole-school improvement.
- Schools need more help with assessing pupils' ICT capability and identifying underachievement. In particular, there is a need for support in developing higher order capability.
- Training is needed both for subject leaders and for teachers and teaching assistants.
- The potential for ICT needs to be recognised and built into school improvement planning to reduce the variability in the quality of pupils' experience.
- Pupils' use of ICT inside and outside school needs to be known about and taken into account in planning schemes

Do any of these apply to your school?

Essex ICT team colleagues are working to help schools develop in these areas.



Top ICT TIPS

Have you seen someone do something on their PC and thought "how do they do that?" ...well now at [e-tictt](#)⁴ we are here to help you!

Do you have an ICT Top Tip to share with us all?

Accessing ICT

Web 2.0 is a term describing changing trends in the use of World Wide Web technology and web design that aims to enhance creativity, secure information sharing, collaboration and functionality of the web.

In school, much of the content we used to install from a CD-ROM is now found directly on the internet.



e-Folio⁵ is enabling pupils and teachers to communicate using web 2 technology. We will soon begin to see word-processing, spreadsheets and graphics being used online with the results saved on a distant server. This will enable pupils to access their work from anywhere and on a range of devices.

Is your school making the most of e-Folio and other Web2 resources?

Our ICT Curriculum



e-pic¹ is based on draft progress statements which Essex trialled as part of a National Strategies pilot. As the QCA units are now becoming out of date the progress statements form a sound basis on which to build an ICT curriculum.

Working with schools, the ICT team have produced video exemplar, planning and teaching materials to support each of the progress statements. The e-pic materials are available free at www.e-pic.org.uk¹ and also on a memory stick available from Paula at Colchester Centre.

Is your school making full use of the e-pic resources?

FLIPPA Assessing pupils' ICT capability

Starting with the Essex Primary ICT curriculum (e-pic) the ICT team have updated the Flippi assessment software. Flippi Lite has pre-structured content whilst Flippi Designer allows you to design your own curriculum.

Flippi X is now a tool to

- plan the integration of ICT into your wider curriculum
- record assessments
- inform pupils, teachers and parents of progress and next steps.
- help you use assessment to inform future planning

Approximately half of Essex primary schools are using Flippi X and the others have received a free disc and registration to evaluate its use in their school.

Note! Flippi version 3 & 4 support ceases April 2009 but the data can be transferred to Flippi X.

Does your school have an effective scheme for assessing pupils' ICT capability?

Have you tried the new cross curricular designer features of FlippiX?

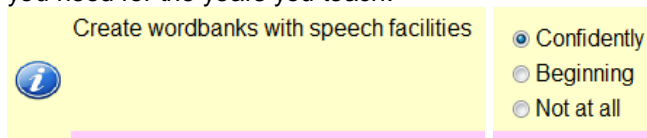


ICT Skills Audit

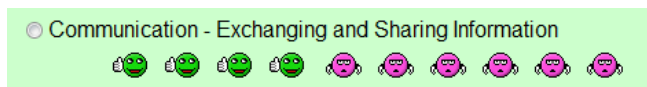
These audits have been produced by the Essex ICT Curriculum team to enable schools or individuals to identify areas of CPD need. They will help teachers and support staff identify areas for their own

ICT professional development (Office applications & use of the interactive whiteboard) as well as assessing their knowledge and skills required to teach and support all elements of Primary ICT. The audit is available at <http://www.e-ictaudit.org>⁶

It enables you to record your confidence levels in the ICT you need for the years you teach.



It provides a snapshot of your confidence level.



And provides access to a whole range of tools to support you with your next steps. These include videos, step by step guides and exemplar material.



Do you feel you have the skills you need to deliver the Essex Primary ICT curriculum?



Controlling and Sensing

Year 3 - Predict and test short sequences of linked instructions to achieve intended outcomes.

Year 6 - Create a sequence of instructions to control events

including the use of feedback from input devices.

Did you know that LOGO was devised in 1967 (41 years ago!) by Seymour Pappert at Massachusetts Institute of Technology as a teaching tool. MIT have now devised [Scratch](#)⁷.

Scratch is designed to help young people (ages 8 and up) develop 21st century learning skills. As they create Scratch projects, young people learn important mathematical and computational ideas, while also gaining a deeper understanding of the process of design.

The website has web2 features such as training videos, forum and an area for pupils to share their creations worldwide.

Have you considered using this new tool or are your pupils still using 41 year old LOGO?

-mydatabase

The Essex Schools Database Webpage

Handling Data

Year 3 - Identify and develop a means of collection, and collect appropriate data and use it to answer questions.
Year 6 – Generate, process, interpret, store and present data understanding the need for accuracy.



Web2 features now enable pupils to share in adding data and searching large databases at school or at home.

[e-mydatabase](#)⁸ is a research project from the ICT team. It has ready made databases including breakfast cereals, 1851 Census, Suspects, Rivers and Planets. It also has starter databases that can be copied into your school area so only your pupils can add or edit data.

If you had a database that the whole class could use at the same time what possibilities could that open up?

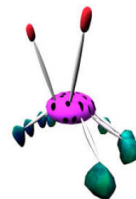
Modelling

Year 2: Use ICT to explore real and imaginary situations.



[Pivot](#)⁹ makes it easy to create stick-figure animations. You can build your own stick figures and load your own backgrounds. The animations can be saved as animated gifs to be used on web pages.

Year 5: Use ICT based models to explore variables and to solve problems.



[Bamzooki](#)¹⁰ is a fantastic free piece of software for use at Key Stage 2 and upwards. Based on a CBBC TV programme children design and make their own Zook- a strange creature. Zooks are great way of demonstrating control and graphical modelling in an exciting and interesting way.

Have you found any other exciting modelling software?

Speaking and Listening

Year 1: Communicate and present their ideas using digital images, text and sound.



These cards from [TTS](#)¹¹ contain a voice recording chip - simple record and play operation. Pupils can record their speech, and then the cards can be added to a wall display etc. Also useful for making a talking branching database.

Year 6: Communicate information having made choices about the appropriate medium and content and structure, demonstrating an understanding of audience and purpose.



The [e-podcast](#)¹² website enables your pupils to make an audio podcast and publish it to a wide audience.

See [e-cpc](#)¹³ for the Essex Curricular Podcasts

Are you making effective use of sound in your ICT?