

Supporting the Professiona Learning of School Leaders and Teachers

Leaving Certificate Computer Science National Workshop 6





Workshop Overview

Session 1 9:30 - 11:00	Algorithms III – Sorting	
	Tea/Coffee 11:00 – 11:30	
Session 2 11:30 - 13:00	Evaluation & testing	
	Lunch 13:00 - 14:00	
Session 3 14:00 - 16:00	Digital portfolios and CWA video	

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Key Messages

There are many ways to use the LCCS specification.

LCCS can be mediated through a constructivist pedagogical approach. ALTs provide an opportunity to teach theoretical aspects of LCCS.

The study of Computers and Society is one of the overarching principle of LCCS Digital technologies can be used to enhance collaboration, learning and reflection.

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NW6 Session 1

Algorithms III - Sorting



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By the end of this session

Participants will have:

- reflected on the definition and characteristics of algorithms, as well as the ubiquitous nature of algorithms in today's society.
- developed their conceptual understanding of a variety of sorting algorithms.
- participated in activities to facilitate the effective learning of algorithms in their own classrooms.

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LCCS NW6

Introduction to algorithms (revisited)



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What does the specification say?



"Computer science is the study of computers and **algorithmic processes**. Leaving Certificate Computer Science includes how programming and computational thinking can be applied to the solution of problems, and how computing technology impacts the world around us."

LCCS Curriculum Specification, page 2

Strand 1: Practices	Strand 2: Core	Strand 3: Computer science
and principles	concepts	in practice
 Computers and society Computational thinking Design and development 	 Abstraction Algorithms Computer systems Data Evaluation/Testing 	 Applied learning task 1 Interactive information systems Applied learning task 2 - Analytics Applied learning task 3 Modelling and simulation Applied learning task 4 Embedded systems

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S2: Algorithms Learning Outcomes



Students learn about:	Students should be able to:		
S2: Algorithms			
Programming concepts	2.5 use pseudo code to outline the functionality of an algorithm		
Sorting: Simple sort, Insert sort, Bubble sort, Quicksort	2.6 construct algorithms using appropriate sequences, selections/conditionals, loops and operators to solve a range of problems, to fulfil a specific requirement		
	2.7 implement algorithms using a programming language to solve a range of problems		
Search: Linear search, Binary search	2.8 apply basic search and sorting algorithms and describe the limitations and advantages of each algorithm		
	2.9 assemble existing algorithms or create new ones that use functions (including recursive) , procedures, and modules		
Algorithmic complexity	2.10 explain the common measures of algorithmic efficiency using any algorithms studied		



See also learning outcomes 1.6, 1.7 1.14, 1.22, 2.3, 3.4 and 3.7 ... plus others

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What is an algorithm?



"An algorithm is a set of rules for getting a specific output from a specific input. Each step must be so precisely defined that it can be translated into computer language and executed by machine."

Source: Knuth, D The Art of Computer Programming (Vol. 1, Fundamental Algorithms, 3rd ed.)

According to Knuth, an algorithm has five important features:

Finiteness	An algorithm must always terminate after a finite number of steps.
Definiteness	Each step must be precisely defined.
Input	An algorithm has zero or more inputs.
Output	An algorithm has one or more outputs, which have a specified relation to the inputs.
Effectiveness	All operations to be performed must be sufficiently basic that they can in principle be done exactly and in finite length of time by someone using pencil and paper.

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What is an algorithm?



Merriam-Webst

" A step-by-step procedure for solving a problem or accomplishing some end especially by a computer."

- \checkmark A sequence of instructions
- \checkmark A way of capturing intelligence and sharing it with others
- ✓ Provide general solutions to problems
- ✓ Some problems are so hard that they cannot be solved by algorithms (Computability)
- ✓ Can be expressed in a variety of different ways
- ✓ Common elements include input, processing, output
- \checkmark Close relationship between algorithms and data structures
- ✓ Essential features are correctness and effectiveness
- ✓ Rule-based algorithms vs. Machine learning algorithms (AI)

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Sorting algorithms: Selection Sort, Insertion Sort and Bubble Sort



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Sorting algorithms

An algorithm that maps the following input/output pair is called a sorting algorithm: Input: A list (array), *L*, that contains *n* orderable elements: L[0, 1, ..., n - 1]Output: A sorted permutation of *L*, called *S*, such that $S[0] \leq S[1] \leq ... \leq S[n - 1].$





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Simple sort demonstration

Input:











Required Output:



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Simple sort demonstration

41 46 95 13 8 59 69 50 72	44 https://www.101computing.net/card-
	□ Search the value 69 using a linear search.
	 Search the value 95 using a binary search. (Make sure to <u>sort the list first</u>!)
	□ Sort this list using an insertion sort.
	□ Sort this list using a bubble sort.
	□ Sort this list using a merge sort.
	□ Sort this list using a quick sort.

New Cards

Use this tool to demonstrate or practise the key searching and sorting algorithms. Drag and drop the cards in position. Right click on any card to change its colour. Drag and drop the pointers and circles to point to or highlight specific cards.



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Breakout Activity



Instructions:

1. Individuals read the algorithm provided and develop their own understanding (5 mins)

2. Each group then discusses and agrees a common understanding of their assigned algorithm (5 mins)

3. Groups prepare a demonstration/explanation which they will use to teach others after the breakout (5 mins)

https://www.101computing.net/card-sort/ https://deck.of.cards/

Simple (selection) Sort Insertion Sort **Bubble** Sort

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Breakout Activity

Groups 1,4,7	Selection Sort	Pages 20-24	9
Groups 2,5,8	Insertion Sort	Pages 25-31	
Groups 3,6,9	Bubble Sort	Pages 32-39	



Appoint a chair, a timekeeper, a notetaker and a spokesperson

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Feedback

Groups 1,4,7	Selection Sort	Pages 20-24	
Groups 2,5,8	Insertion Sort	Pages 25-31	
Groups 3,6,9	Bubble Sort	Pages 32-39	



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Sorting – key skills

- ✓ Lists/For loops
- ✓ Min/max (*if* statements... comparison operators)
- Swap operation (assignment statement)
- ✓ Functions
- ✓ Sorted (built-in function) Vs sort (list method)

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Swap operation

Let's say we wanted to exchange L[2] and L[1]



Python supports a single statement swap:

$$L[2], L[1] = L[1], L[2]$$
 $L \longrightarrow 18$ 15 27 13 22

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Unplugged activity (swap)

The aim is to swap the positions of the black and white pieces.



|--|

Pieces can move either by sliding into an adjacent empty square, or by jumping a single adjacent piece into the empty square immediately beyond.

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Correctness

Before implementation begins, it is a good idea to know what we want!

Question: What does the function shown below do?

11	12	22	25	64
0	1	2	3	4
	I	List Ele	ments	

1	<pre>def isSorted(L):</pre>
2	<pre>for i in range(1, len(L)):</pre>
3	if L[i] < L[i-1]:
4	return False
5	
6	return True

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Sorting algorithms: Quicksort



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Recursion

return -1

```
def linear_search_v6(v, L, index=0) :
    if len(L) != 0:
        if L[0] == v:
            return index
        r = linear_search_v6(v, L[1:], index+1)
        if r != -1:
```

return r



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L[0] = 14 (Found!)

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Sorting algorithms

An algorithm that maps the following input/output pair is called a sorting algorithm: Input: A list (array), *L*, that contains *n* orderable elements: L[0, 1, ..., n - 1]Output: A sorted permutation of *L*, called *S*, such that $S[0] \leq S[1] \leq ... \leq S[n - 1].$

A general sorting algorithm devised by Tony Hoare in the late 1950s.





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Quicksort: the basic idea

DIVIDE

1. Pick some number p from the list – called the pivot

2. Partition all the data into:

- A. The values less than the pivot (call this the left list)
- B. The pivot (call this the middle list)
- C. The values greater than the pivot (call this the right list)

CONQUER

- 3. Quicksort the left list (A)
- 4. Quicksort the right list (B)
- 5. The answer is left list + middle list + right list

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Partitioning



STEP 1. Choose the rightmost element in the list as the pivot

STEP 2. Create three empty lists called left_list, middle_list and right_list

STEP 3. for each key (item) in the list

- if key is < pivot add it to left_list</pre>
- if key is == pivot add it to middle_list
- if key is > pivot add it to right_list

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de	f quick_sort(L):
	left_list = []
	<pre>middle_list = []</pre>
	right_list = []
	# Base case
	if len(L) <=1:
	return(L)





What features of recursion can you can see in this code?

```
# Set pivot to the last element in the list
pivot = L[len(L)-1]
```

```
# Iterate through all elements (keys) in L
for key in L:
    if key < pivot:
        left_list.append(key)
    elif key == pivot:
        middle_list.append(key)
    else:
        right list.append(key)</pre>
```

```
# Repeat the quicksort on the sub-lists and combine the results
return quick_sort(left_list) + middle_list + quick_sort(right_list)
```

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Now quicksort left_list

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Now quicksort left_list

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Now quicksort left_list

Base case: len(L) <= 1 so return 11

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Base case: len(L) <= 1 so return 18</pre>

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Result is left + middle + right so return 11 12 18

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Partition around 25

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Now quicksort left_list

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Now quicksort left_list

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Now quicksort left_list Base case: len(L) <= 1 so return []</pre>

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Partition around 46

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Partition around 46

Now quicksort left list

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Partition around 46

Now quicksort left list

Base case: len(L) <= 1 so return[]</pre>

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Now quicksort right_list
Base case: len(L) <= 1 so return 88</pre>

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Result is left + middle + right so return 46 88

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Perform a quicksort on the following:



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denotes empty list

LCCS Sample Paper Q15 (d)

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Exercise

Investigate why this scenario leads to the worst-case performance for the quicksort





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Tea/Coffee

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Session 2

Evaluation and Testing

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By the end of this session participants ^(V) Oide will have:

- Examined the importance of testing in the software development cycle.
- Experienced real-life testing scenarios.
- Developed test plans and test cases for a variety of situations.
- Investigated and experienced test-driven development.



Computer Science

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LCCS Learning Outcomes

S2: Evaluation and testing	
Debugging	2.19 test solutions and decisions to determine their short-term and long-term outcomes
Testing: Unit test, Function t e System test	est, 2.20 identify and fix/debug warnings and errors in computer code and modify as required
	2.21 critically reflect on and identify limitations in completed code and suggest possible improvements
	2.22 explain the different stages in software testing

But Also

Design and Developing L.O. 1.19 Computational Thinking L.O.s 1.1 - 1.9 Computers and Society L.O.s 1.11 Computers and Society L.O.s 1.22 Computer Science in Practice L.O.s 3.2 – 3.14



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1. Introduction to Testing



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Why is Software Testing important?

🛃 Mentimeter

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Join at menticom | use cade 8512 9760

What words/terms do you associate with Software Testing?

Waiting for responses ...







5 Minutes





Why test Software?

Some interesting scenarios

Boeing



MS Word 97 – French version – what happened?

Windows XP



The hot key E – went to *Envoyer* (Send) and users thought it was Edit with disastrous consequences

Activity 1 Reflecting on Software Testing.

Testing the mini-rocket



Read *Evaluate testing the mini rocket* and note any thoughts you have on how you would carry out any tests.

You might consider:

- Can I test everything at the same time?
- Would I prioritise anything when testing?
- Are there any testing suggestions I would add/remove from the list?
- Is it important to have a testing strategy?



Dide

Appoint a chair, a timekeeper, a notetaker and a spokesperson

P2

Feedback

Testing the mini-rocket

What did you include in your Test plan?





How to Prepare an Effective Test Plan ⁽⁾ Oide Template?

A Test Plan is like a **blueprint of how the testing activity is going to take place in a project** ensuring that a system is fully tested, and any outcomes are documented.

Test plans are made up of

- Who is testing
- The reason for the test
- The Test data
- The expected outcome
- The actual result







What is a Test Case?

Test Cases can be simply determined as conditions that a tester will check whether the code runs perfectly or not.

https://www.geeksforgeeks.org/types-software-testing/

Tester ID	Description of what is being tested	Test Data	Expected Result	Actual Result	Test Passed Y/N



Norman Whiteside's goal in the FA Cup 1985





Testers are similar to defenders





Bug fixing cost



(www.systemsemantics.com)
What is Software Testing?

"Testing shows the presence, not the absence, of bugs"... All that tests can do, after sufficient testing effort, is allow us to deem a program to be correct enough for our purposes."





Clean Architecture: A Craftsman's Guide to Software Structure and Design (Robert C. Martin Series) 1st Edition



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2. Software Testing



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Testing the Linear Search Algorithm



idx -5 -1 values



Is searching for 26 a sufficient test of this algorithm?

Take a moment to note your answer in the booklet.



Activity 2

investigate testing the functionality of the Shading Tab in the Borders and Shading dialog box in a MS Word document/ Border Colour and Cell Background in a Google Document by testing several possible combinations of colours, border size and types.

Consider the questions:

- Can I test every possible combination of colours, border size and types?
- Do I need to prioritise what I need to test and if so, how would I do that?







7 Minutes





Feedback





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3. Types of Testing/ Testers' roles



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Activity 3: Home Expert Activity





Investigating types of testing.

- You could consider what the
- testing involves with an
- example and who carries out
- the test.

- 1. <u>Functional</u> v non-functional testing
- 2. <u>Unit v Integration testing</u>
- 3. <u>System</u> v User Acceptance Testing
- 4. White v Black box testing
- 5. Alpha v Beta Testing
- 6. Usability v Security Testing
- 7. Regression v Smoke Testing
- 8. Accessibility v Stress Testing
- 9. Other





15 Minutes



Feedback





Types of Software Testing



https://stratoflow.com/types-of-software-testing/





https://www.geeksforgeeks.org/types-software-testing/



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4. Test Driven Development (TDD)



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Test Driven Development (TDD)

TDD usually follows the "Red-Green-Refactor" cycle:

- 1. Add a test to the test suite
- 2. (Red) Run all the tests to ensure the new test fails
- 3. (Green) Write just enough code to get that single test to pass
- 4. Run all tests
- 5. (Refactor) Improve the initial code while keeping the tests green
- 6. Repeat

"Fake it till you make it" (Kent Blake): Write only code needed to pass tests.



https://testdriven.io/





TDD & Software Development Models

- Does TDD fit in the Agile framework?
- Is TDD the same as Agile development?
- Is Waterfall development relevant?
- How does the role of testing change, according to these methodologies?





5 Minutes



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5. Reflection



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Reflection

- From what we covered today, what could you bring to your classroom?
- How could you incorporate testing into future ALTS?







Resources

COMPSCI.IE



GeeksforGeeks

A computer science portal for geeks

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Lunch









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NW6 Session 3

Digital portfolios & Coursework video



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By the end of this session

Participants will have been enabled to:

- develop an understanding of digital portfolios
- recognise how the use of Digital Portfolios is supported by educational policy
- make the link with Digital Portfolios and the LCCS subject including a 'show and tell' from teachers
- develop a shared understanding of the video component for the LCCS Coursework Assessment
- access a range of software relevant to the video production process



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Digital Portfolios for ALTs



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Digital Strategy for Schools to 2027

"Using digital technologies actively and working with other learners promotes and encourages active learning, problem solving, critical thinking and communication skills, all of which are vital for the world we live in."

Digital Strategy for Schools to 2027, 1.3 A Learner-Centred Approach





Digital Strategy for Schools to 2027

"The use of digital portfolios in teaching and learning has also grown, providing a platform for student centred learning, particularly in junior cycle and Transition Year."

Digital Strategy for Schools to 2027, 1.13 Assessment





Leaving Certificate Computer Science

"The output from each task is a computational artefact and a concise individual report outlining its development."

"In the report, students outline where and how the core concepts were employed. The structure of the reports should reflect the design process."

"As students progress, reports should become detailed and individual."

"Reports are collected in a digital portfolio along with the computational artefact."





Developing Key Skills





How can the Key Skills of Senior Cycle be developed through the use of digital portfolios?

Digital Portfolios: Warm-up Activity

How can the Key Skills of Senior Cycle be developed through the use of digital portfolios?

What is your current understanding of digital portfolios?









What is a Portfolio?

"A portfolio - paper or electronic - is a **collection of evidence** that is gathered together to show a person's **learning journey over time** and to demonstrate their abilities.

In that way, people compiling portfolios are active participants in their own learning."

(EUFolio, 2015, p9)

https://eufolioresources.files.wordpress.com/2015/03/eportfolio-implementation-guide_en.pdf





Who was the first famous folio keeper?



Defining Digital Portfolios



"Digital portfolios are student-owned dynamic digital workspaces whereby students can capture their learning, their ideas, access their collections of work, reflect on their learning, share it, set goals, seek feedback and showcase their learning and achievements."





Benefits of Digital Portfolios



Three Levels of Digital Portfolio



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Using Digital Portfolios to support Formative Assessment



EUFolio (2015) Adapted from: Assessment for Learning and ePortfolios (2012)



Key Message

"Reflections and relationships are at the heart and soul of digital portfolios.... not the technology."

Dr. Helen Barrett





Breakout Task

In your breakout group, discuss and plan a strategy for incorporating digital portfolios into the learning plan for your LCCS classroom.





Feedback

In your breakout group, discuss and plan a strategy for incorporating digital portfolios into the learning plan for your LCCS classroom.





Final Tips for LCCS Digital Portfolio

- Use the existing platform that is in your school already you can combine it with other tools or platforms for code if needed.
- Keep it simple and start small first.
- Discuss with students what they are doing & WHY!
- Show a finished one to help students visualise it (current 6th years can be shown to 5th years).


Final Tips for LCCS Digital Portfolio

- Make links with Transition Year if they have completed a portfolio already.
- Encourage regular updating and reflection on each section/task/ etc.
- Share students' digital portfolios so they can see each other's work.
- Share with the wider school community and at open days etc to showcase LCCS at your school.



Resources – Digital Portfolios

EportfolioIreland

Connect Ignite Elevate

COMPSCI.IE



Resources – Digital Portfolios



https://www.oidetechnologyineducation.ie/courses-practice/



Resources – Digital Portfolios



https://www.scoilnet.ie/tools-for-teachers/articles/eportfolio/



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LCCS **Coursework Video**









You must embed a video presentation showing the artefact in operation.

The video must not be more than 5 minutes in duration. In deciding the content of your video, you should refer to the description of the task.

The video should show all the features of the artefact that you want the examiner to be aware of, as this is the main piece of evidence on which the examiner will judge the quality of the artefact.



All content of the report (images, video or other) must comply with the school's Acceptable Usage Policy and with General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR).

The video should demonstrate the quality of the user interface and the full functionality of the artefact.

The video should be no more than 1GB in size. This readily can be achieved by using standard definition (720 x 480) at 25 frames per second and a suitable commonly used format.

Coursework Sample Brief

What would you use to record and edit video with your students?



Oide



Deciding the Coursework Video Tool

- There is no set tool to use it is your choice.
- It will depend on:
 - Context of your own classroom.
 - Technology already available in your school (equipment and process for CBAs).
 - Your own experience with tools.
 - Student's view or previous experience.



Planning Tips for the Video

- Planning is essential.
- Use a storyboard.
- Use the native video capture on mobile or tablet device.
- Tripod is good for some shooting.
- Consider music / voiceover / subtitles carefully.
- Consider light when shooting.
- Chat to other teachers in your school for assistance.
- Give guidance but allow students to take ownership of video.



Planning Tips for the Video

- Record video throughout the process
- Save video files/images/etc. regularly
- Gather all your assets in one place before editing
- Exporting edited video can take a long time
- Allow plenty of time for editing and finishing touches
- Videos may not always work use VLC (videolan.org) to check if the video is still there and usable
- Allow plenty of time for editing and finishing touches
- If your video is too big, use HandBrake to shrink it
- Allow plenty of time for editing and finishing touches







Recording & Editing Video



PowerPoint Screen Record



OBS Open Broadcaster Software*









Final fixes - Handbrake

For putting the finishing touches to your video:

- Resolution
- Filetype
- Crop (top/bottom/left/right)
- Trim (start/finish)
- Reducing file size





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Coursework Video Demo









Resources – Video for Coursework





https://fisfilmproject.ie/

COMPSCI.IE



Resources – Video for Coursework



https://fisfilmproject.ie/teacher-resources/





An Roinn Oideachais Department of Education

