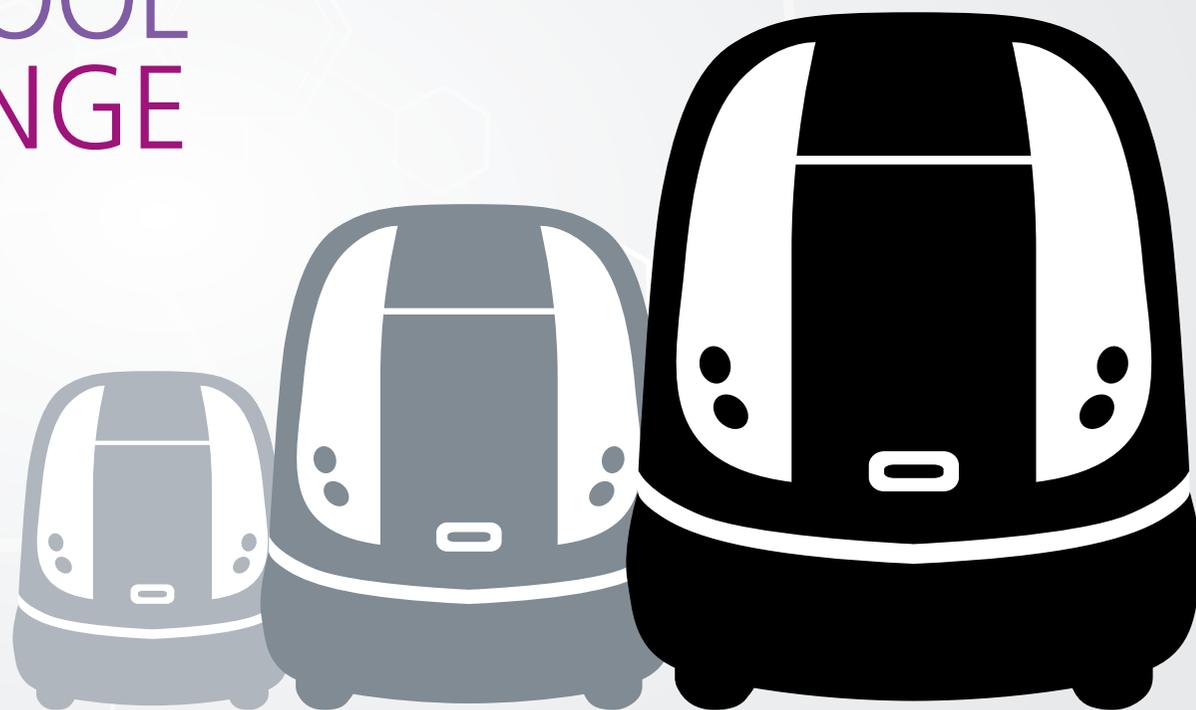


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# HEATHROW

SECONDARY SCHOOL  
CODING CHALLENGE



**Heathrow**

# The Heathrow Secondary School Coding Challenge

## What is it all about?

Heathrow is committed to raising the aspiration and academic achievement of local young people and to reducing the skills gap in Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths related study and careers.

To support this objective, the Heathrow Secondary School Coding Challenge is delivered to schools in our local boroughs of Ealing, Hillingdon, Hounslow, Slough and Spelthorne to encourage young people to think more about careers in coding.

Heathrow recognises that knowledge of coding is more important than ever for the career prospects of young people; to fulfil future career opportunities, it is estimated that the UK will need a workforce of one million digital skilled workers by 2020.



## What is a pod?

Heathrow's new challenge is based upon the Heathrow Pods; the Personal Rapid Transit systems that provide transport between the business car parks and Terminal 5. The 21 driverless Pods can carry up to four passengers and their luggage on each five minute, virtually silent journey. The Pods support Heathrow's air quality and sustainability objectives by eliminating more than 50,000 bus journeys annually.

## What will happen on the day?

Working in small groups, students will first work together to build a 'Pod', and then use coding to programme their Pod to travel a designed route, finishing with an exciting race off with other teams.

The Challenge is supported by Heathrow's IT Managers and employee volunteers. As well as improving their coding skills, the activity provides an enjoyable way for young people to explore their enterprise skills, develop social and communication skills, and encourages team working.



## What next?

If you would like to your school to participate in the Challenge, the next steps are:

- Complete and return the Expression of Interest form, places are allocated on a first come basis
- Agree a date (or dates) – the Challenge is for the whole of Year 8, if you have more than 60 students in your year group we will arrange for additional sessions in your school.

**We look forward to hearing from you.**

### Aim

To inspire young people in the subjects of Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths

### Key Skills

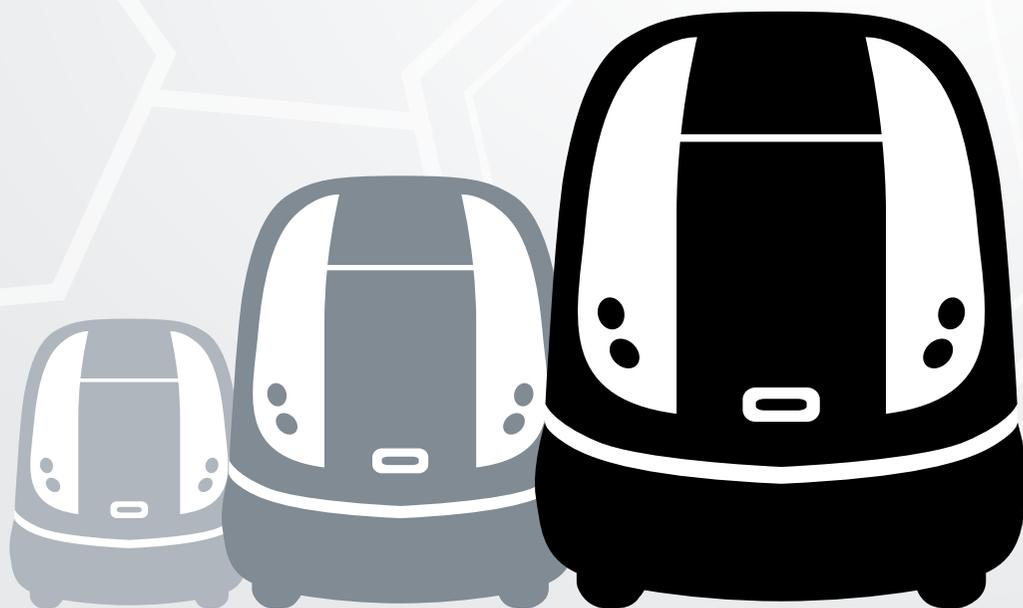
- Problem Solving
- Perseverance
- Communication skills
- Teamwork.

### Curriculum Links

- ICT – Programming
- Technology – robotics, control technology
- Maths – trial and error, estimation.

### The Challenge

Students work in teams to build and programme a Pod



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