



## Summer Coding Bootcamp 2020: Training for a Brighter Future

This year's **Summer Coding Bootcamp** went ahead without fail, despite the COVID-19 pandemic. The programme, which is organised by TrainingMalta™ and Annalise Duca, and sponsored by the eSkills Malta Foundation, consisted of two free, virtual courses which are aimed at teenagers, teachers and parents to broaden their digital and coding skills for future educational and/or employment opportunities.

The Summer Coding Bootcamp is one of many programmes which TrainingMalta™ has been delivering over the years. This year, we held two courses: one dedicated to adults including teachers and parents, and the other to teenagers. It has always been our aim to provide students with innovative approaches to learning. That is why, through this Bootcamp, we are helping them gain access to numerous online resources and tools.



**“The New Way of Learning – Resources & Tools for Parents & Teachers for Online Education”** was taught by Angele Giuliano, who is an experienced educator and entrepreneur. The aim of this course was to help teachers and parents alike in developing their digital skills. Since the pandemic has left many uncertain of how class-based education can survive without the use of technology, the Summer Coding Bootcamp seemed like the ideal opportunity for these individuals to gain access to online educational resources. The tools which we have provided are



available to all ages and applicable to many areas of study. They are also rich with interactive quizzes and games: which will only increase the enjoyment of the learning experience for children and students.

Our course aimed at teenagers, “**Scratch – Game Development for Children**”, was given by Peter Meadley, who has an extensive background in gaming development, having graduated from the University of Abertay in Dundee, Scotland. This course focused on game development skills rather than basic coding since Peter believes that teaching programming skills under the umbrella of game development creates an environment that makes some of the more tedious theory lessons enjoyable to younger learners.



We had the opportunity to ask Peter about his views on teaching teenagers and what this means in today’s environment and he told us that what he found most rewarding was the level of enthusiasm brought to the course. Each student had their own set of ideas which made them stand out, and that is especially important when it comes to creating games. Moreover, Peter referred to the necessity of promoting digital skills to young learners. The rapid development of technology is a sign that digital literacy will play a significant role in our future. As Peter states: “by teaching these skills at a younger age we can help equip [students] with the tools they will need when they leave school”.



Even though the Summer Coding Bootcamp has come to a close, we are grateful for all the positive feedback we have received for both courses over the last few weeks. We plan on delivering further online training in the near future so do keep updated on all the latest news through our social media channels or by visiting our website [www.trainingmalta.com](http://www.trainingmalta.com).

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