

COMPUTING AT SCHOOL

EDUCATE · ENGAGE · ENCOURAGE

In collaboration with BCS, The Chartered Institute for IT

Computer Science for every child: England's story.

Duncan Maidens

Associate Professor – Birmingham City University –UK

Based on slides by Simon Peyton Jones,
Microsoft Research and Computing at School

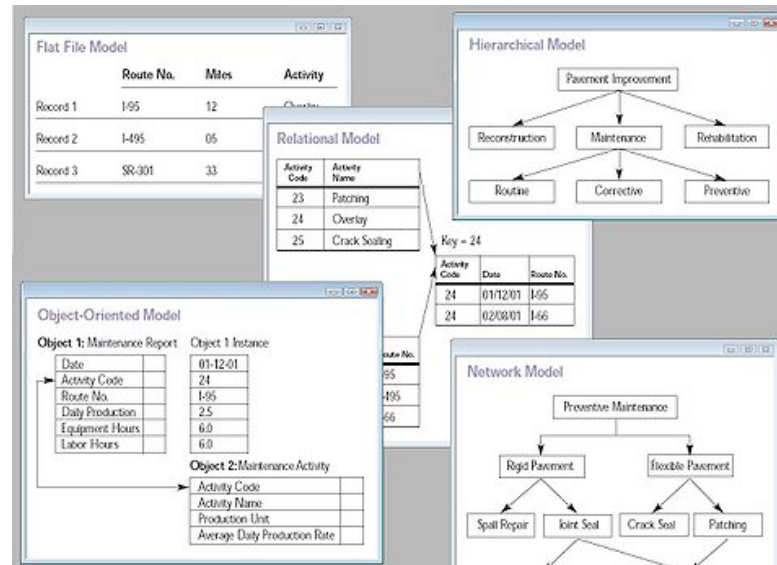


Why England's Story ?

- The United Kingdom is a sovereign state.
- England, Scotland Wales and Northern Ireland have some devolved governing powers.
- Education has been devolved to each country to manage.



Why are our children not inspired by Computer Science ?



First computing revolution 40 years ago



```
310 LET A=USR 18288
320 IF INKEY#="" THEN GOTO 320
330 POKE 17901,INT (RND*128)
335 IF PEEK 21623<>178 THEN POK
E ((PEEK 16396+256*PEEK 16397)+6
0).0
340 POKE 16522,CODE INKEY$
350 LET A=USR 18224
360 IF PEEK 16519>=128 THEN GOT
0 5000
370 FOR N=0 TO 5
380 NEXT N
390 IF PEEK (PEEK 16514+17920) <
>45 THEN GOTO 330
400 FOR N=0 TO 30
405 POKE 17901,INT (128*RND)
410 LET A=USR 18224
420 FOR M=0 TO 3
425 NEXT M
430 NEXT N
440 CLS
450 GOTO 2520

370 FOR N=0 TO 0
```



What do our children see today ?





As educators
what do we
want ?

“Education should prepare young people
for jobs that do not yet exist,
using technologies that have not yet been
invented,
to solve problems of which we are not yet
aware.”

Richard Riley

Disciplines

Skills

Disciplines

Ideas, knowledge,
principles, techniques,
methods

Maths, science, history,
English

Skills

Artefacts, devices,
programs, products,
organisations, business

Presentation skills,
metalwork, textiles, food
technology, teamwork



ICT

Information and Communication Technology

Spreadsheets, databases, PowerPoint,
web, internet, audio, video, e-safety



This was the situation
in the UK during the
2000's

Too much focus
on technology



Discipline

Computer science



So what goes here?



Skills

Digital skills

Not enough on underlying
concepts

Why the change now ?

We are truly at the start of the Digital Age



1 The accelerating pace of change ...



2 ... and exponential growth in computing power ...

Computer technology, shown here climbing dramatically by powers of 10, is now progressing more each hour than it did in its entire first 90 years

COMPUTER RANKINGS

By calculations per second per \$1,000

Analytical engine
Never fully built, Charles Babbage's invention was designed to solve computational and logical problems



Colossus
The electronic computer, with 1,500 vacuum tubes, helped the British crack German codes during WW II



UNIVAC I
The first commercially marketed computer, used to tabulate the U.S. Census, occupied 943 cu. ft.

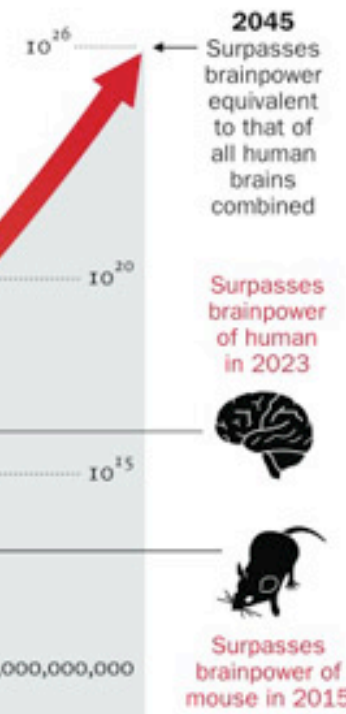


Apple II
At a price of \$1,298, the compact machine was one of the first massively popular personal computers



Power Mac G4
The first personal computer to deliver more than 1 billion floating-point operations per second

3 ... will lead to the Singularity



1900 1920 1940 1960 1980 2000 2011 2020 2045

ELECTROMECHANICAL → RELAYS → VACUUM TUBES → TRANSISTORS → INTEGRATED CIRCUITS

Opportunity and challenge

- **Opportunity.** The ice is melting. Everything is in flux
- **Challenge**
 - What should we teach? What ARE the big ideas of computer science?
 - How should we teach it?
 - How can we encourage, support, and equip our teachers to teach with confidence?
- **Risk.** In 10 years time it turns out to be no more than coding classes

Vision

Computer science is a foundational subject discipline, like maths and natural science, that every child should learn from primary school onwards

Careful positioning

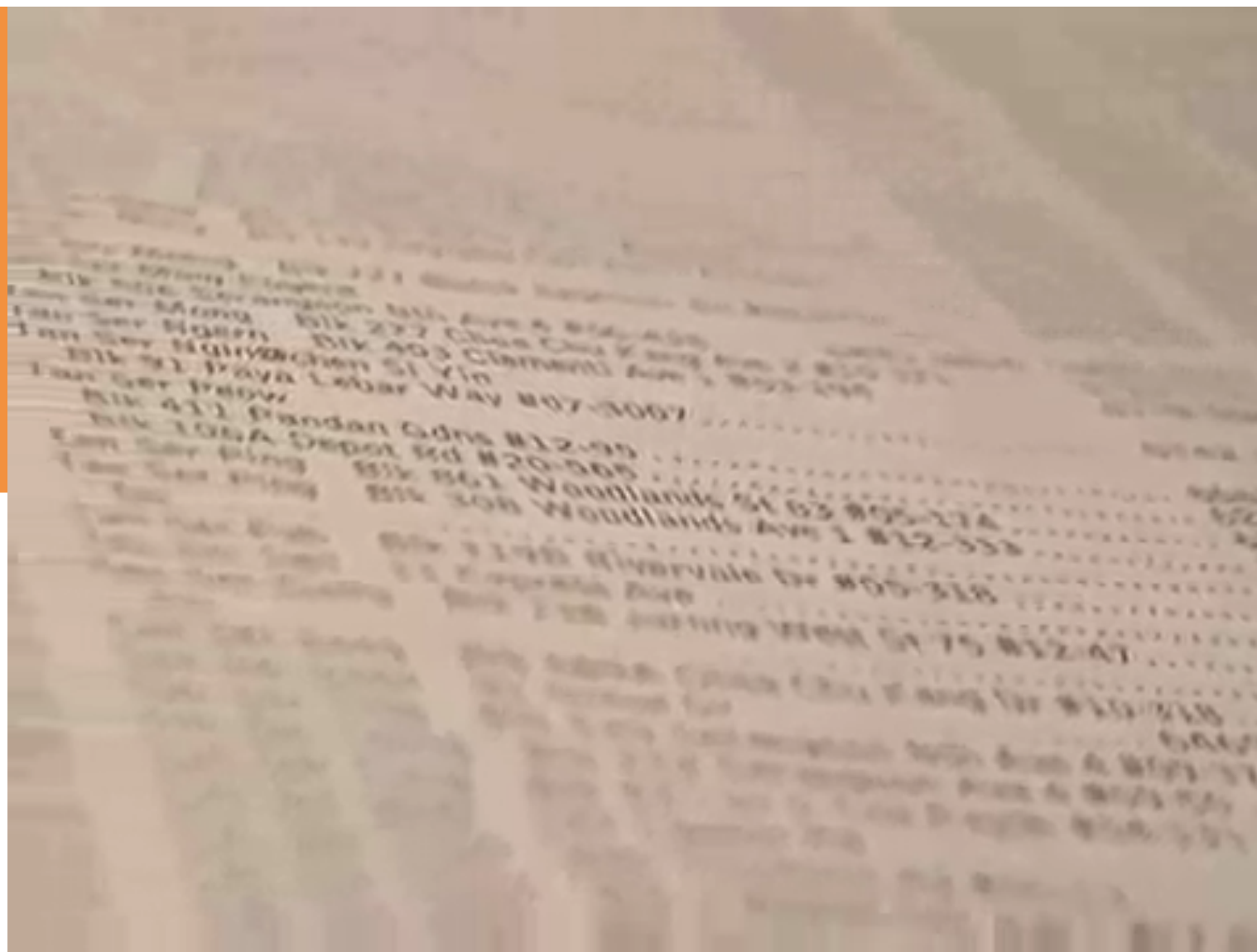
- *Ideas, not technology*
Not even primarily about computers
- *Every child, not just geeks*
- *Educational not instrumental:*
Not just a vocational/economic imperative
- *Discipline, not skill*
In particular, not just coding

Computational thinking (Jeannette Wing)

Computational thinking is the process of *recognising* aspects of information and computation in the world that surrounds us, and *applying* tools and techniques from computing to understand and reason about both natural and artificial systems and processes.

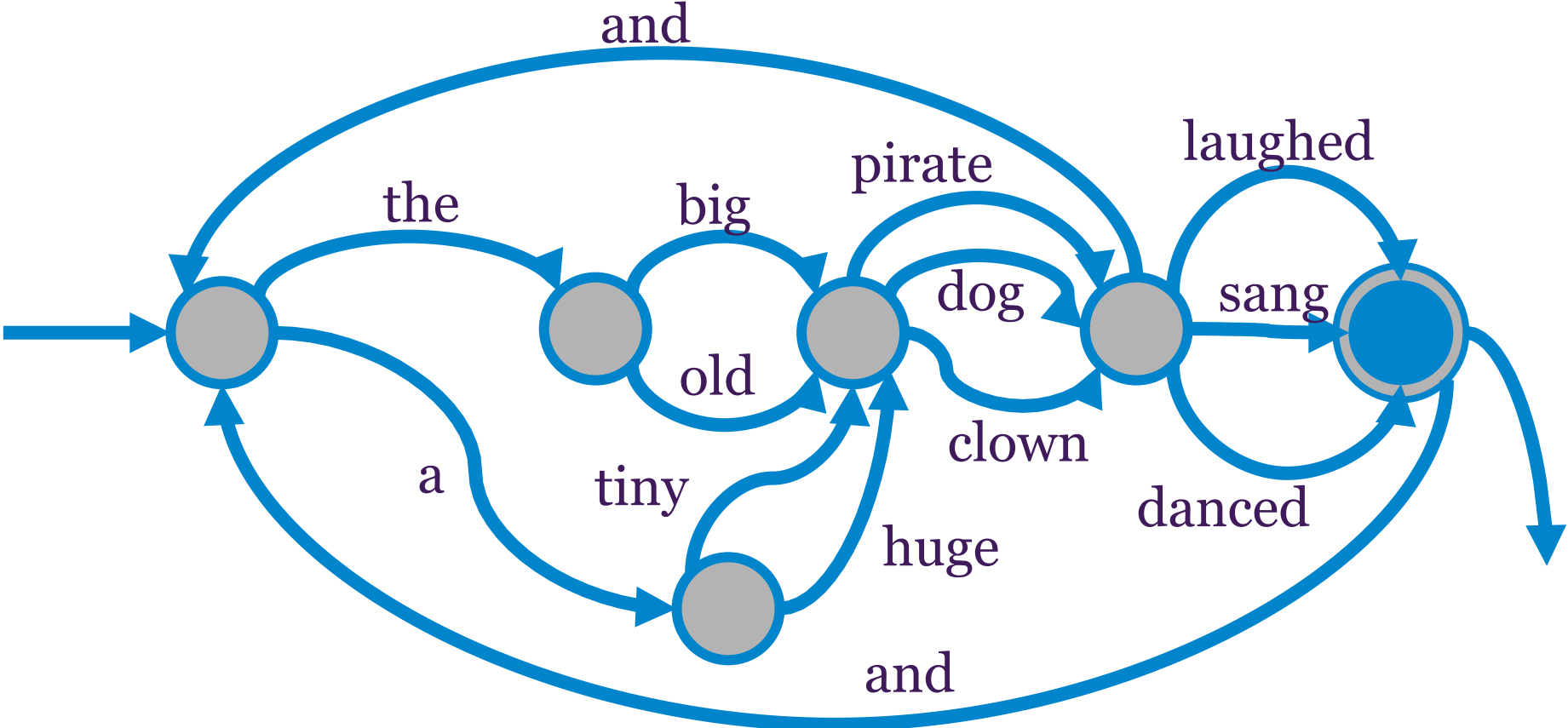
- Computational thinking is something **people** do, not something **computers** do
- Computational thinking is ubiquitous; it is useful in every profession, and in daily life

Look!
No computers



<http://csunplugged.org/sorting-networks>

Follow the arrows to generate a sentence



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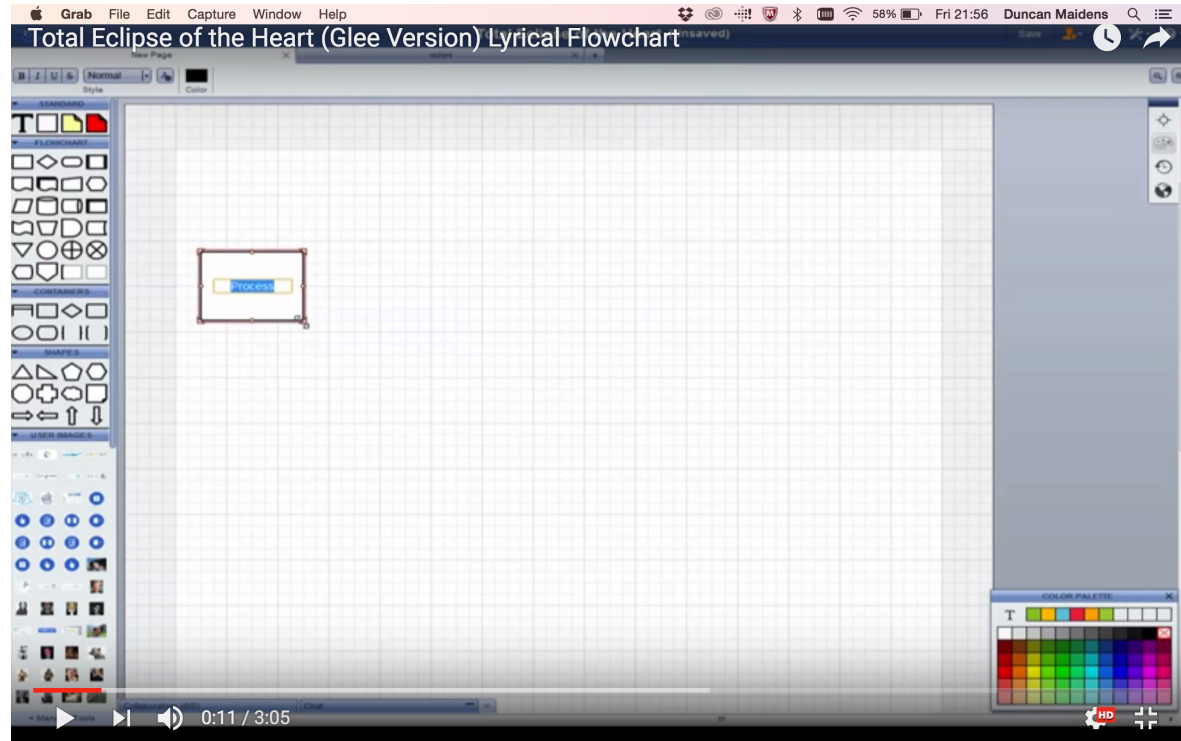
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Every child

- Understand the natural world
- Understand the human world
- Understand the digital world
- Gain skills for almost any job



Computational Thinking in Music



<https://youtu.be/j7uAfo6t7kQ>

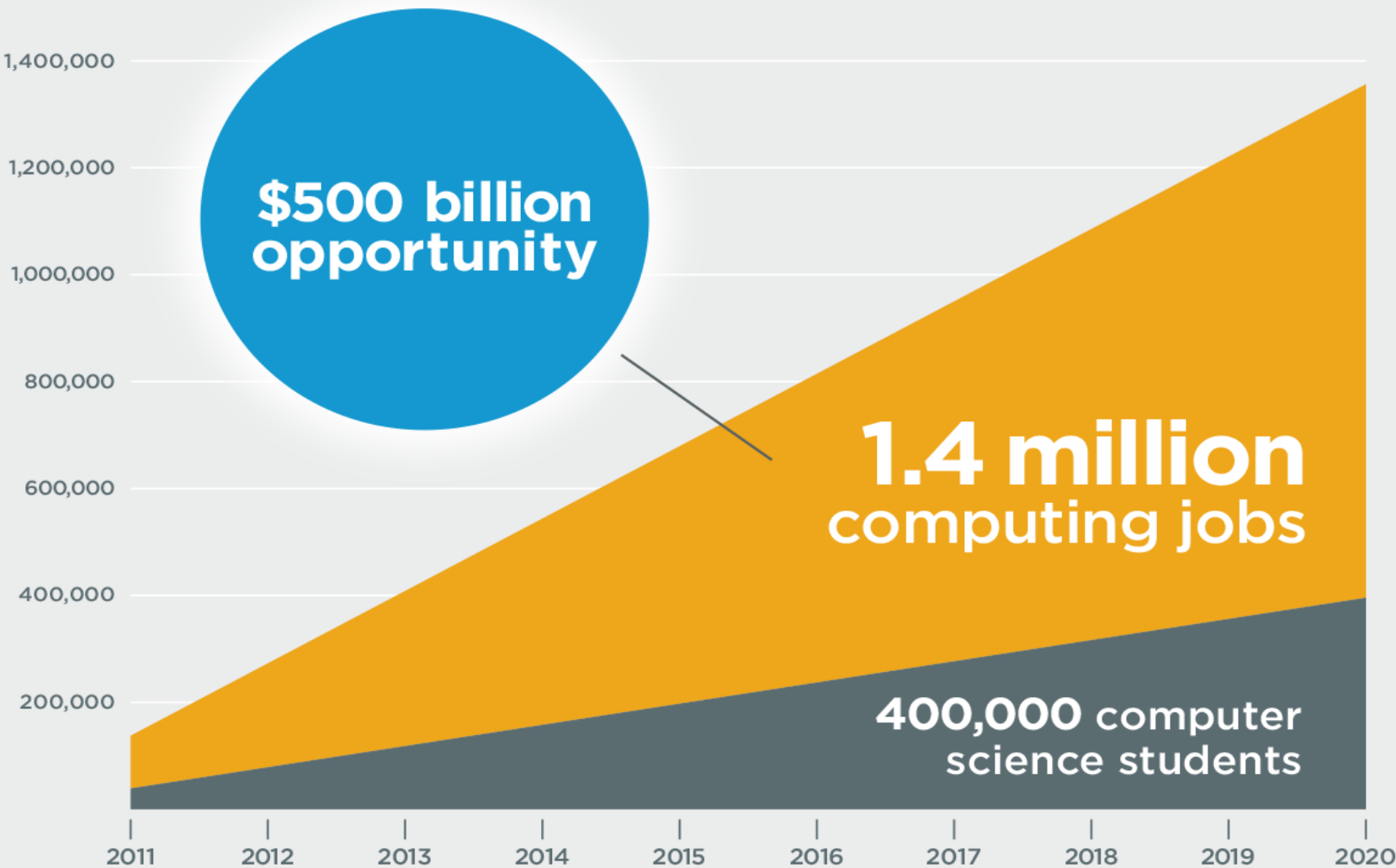
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1,000,000 more jobs than students by 2020



Computer science is a top paying college degree and computer programming jobs are growing at 2X the national average.

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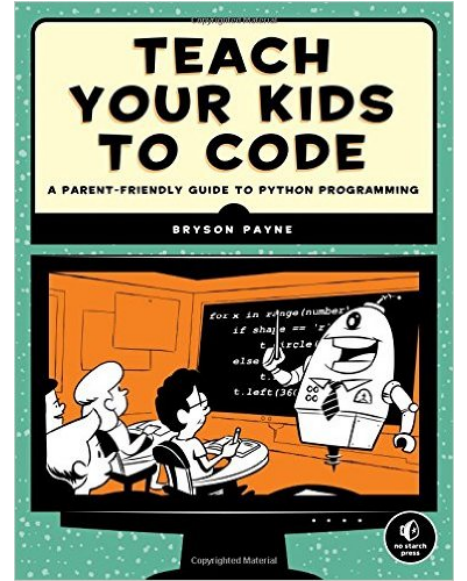
The Telegraph

Teaching our children to code: a quiet revolution

The next wave of the digital revolution arrives next year, with every child in the UK being taught computer programming. But is Britain ready?



Why Our Kids Must Learn to Code



[Computer science and IT](#) The Observer

Why all our kids should be taught how to code

15 Reasons Why We Should Be Teaching Our Kids To Code

BY JAYNE CLARE · APRIL 20, 2013 · BLOG · 13 COMMENTS

Coding bring Computation Thinking to life

Computational thinking

decomposition

solve a problem by breaking it into smaller groups



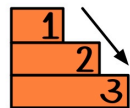
pattern recognition

find the order analyze the data

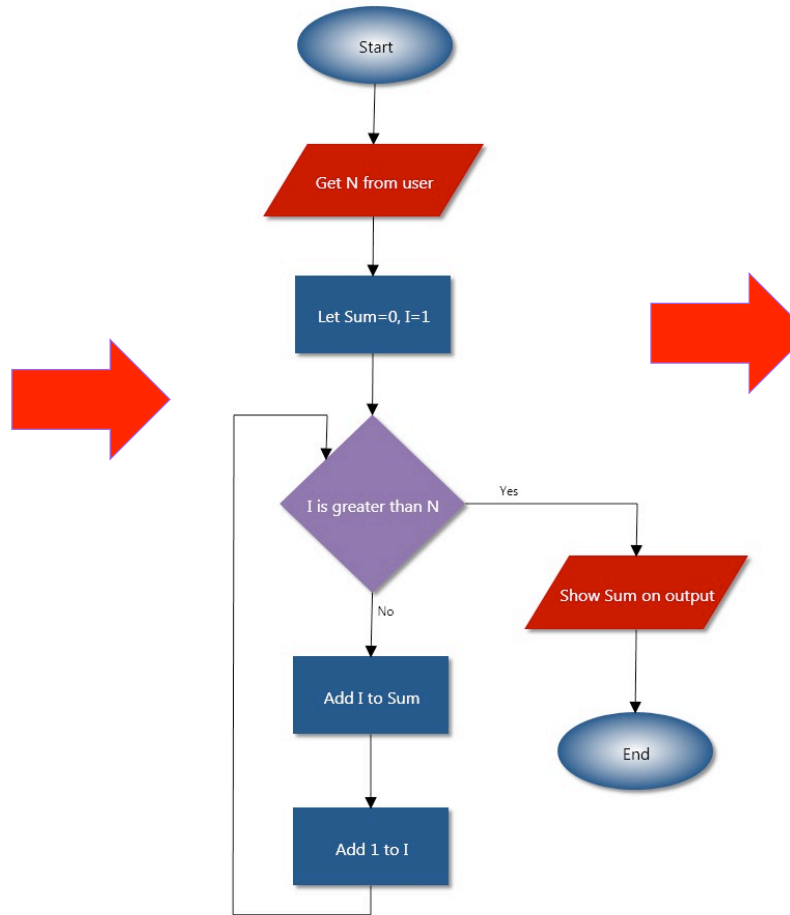


algorithmic design

creating solutions using a series of ordered STEPS



Sequencing



Coding

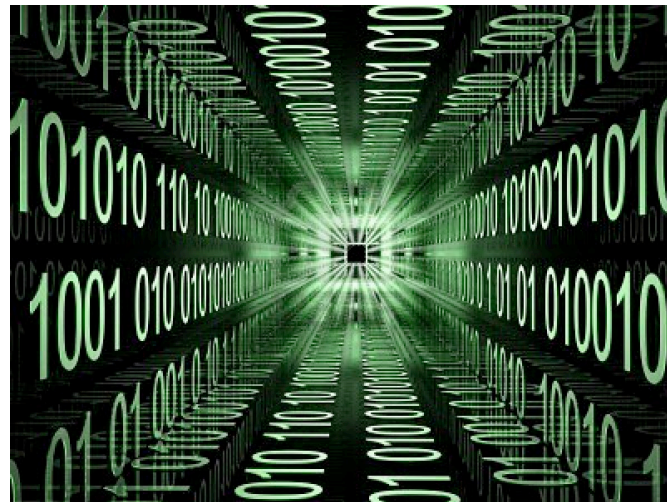


How the code makes things happen

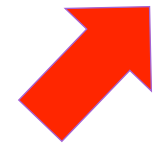
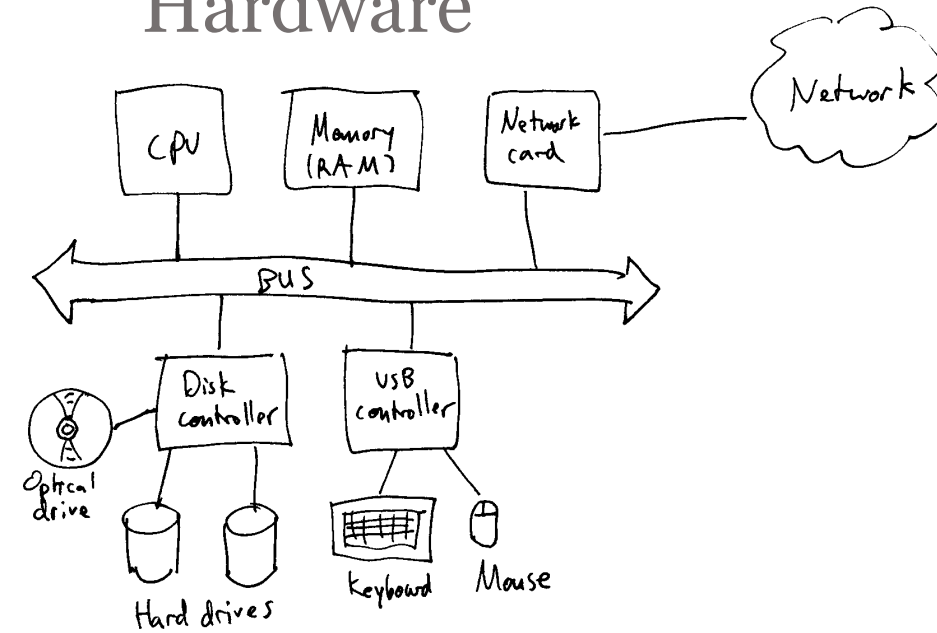
Coding



Data Representation and Compiling



Hardware





The England's journey

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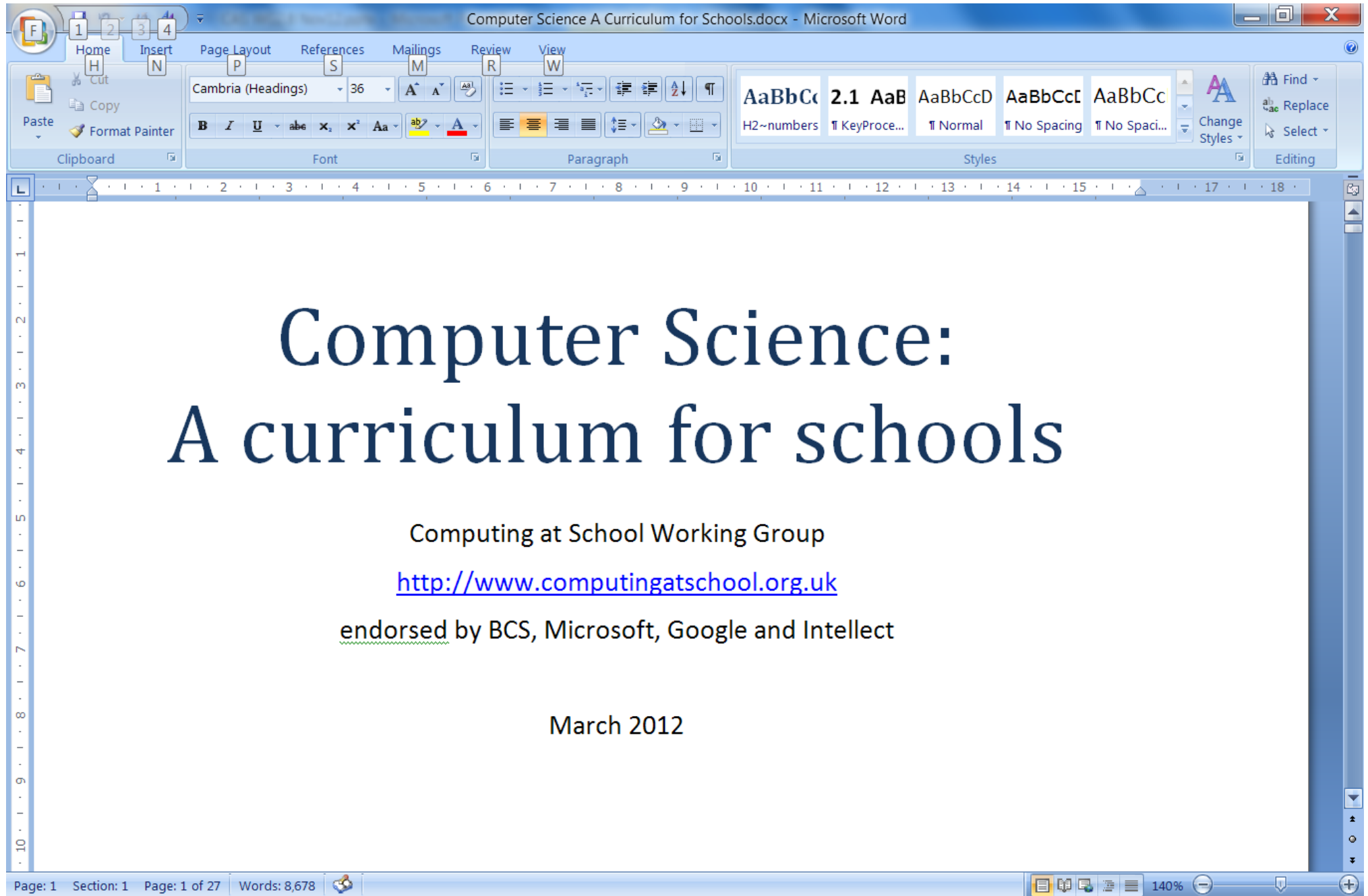
CAS is formed

CAS curriculum
(35 pages)

2008 2009 2010 2011



2010



Shut Down or Restart Report by Royal Society



Eric Schmidt
(Google) tells us we
should be educating
our children in CS!



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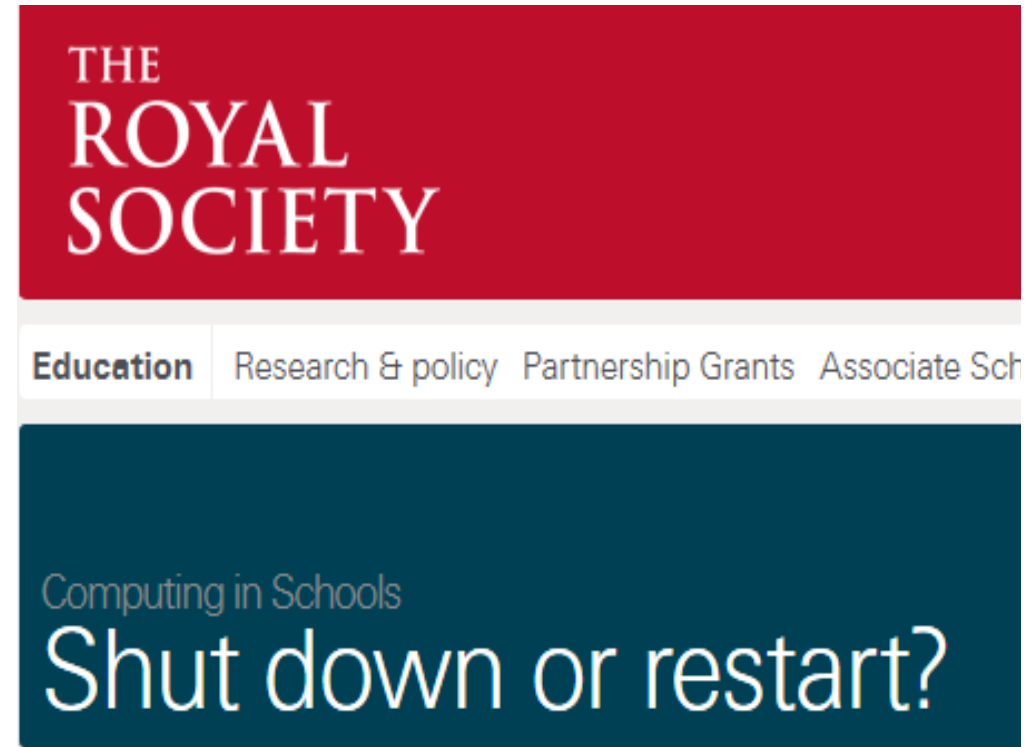
CAS
curriculum
(35 pages)

2008 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014

Review of the National
Curriculum in England

Shut down or restart

- "The current delivery of Computing education in many UK schools is highly unsatisfactory"
- "Computer Science is a rigorous academic discipline and needs to be recognised as such in schools"
- "Every child should have the opportunity to learn Computing at school"



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CAS
curriculum
(35 pages)

Shut Down or Restart
Report by Royal Society



BCS invited to
create a working
group to draft the
new Computing
curriculum



New curriculum
(2 pages) published

New curriculum
launches

2008 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014

Review of the National
Curriculum in England



Department
for Education

Computing

Programmes of study for Key Stages 1-4

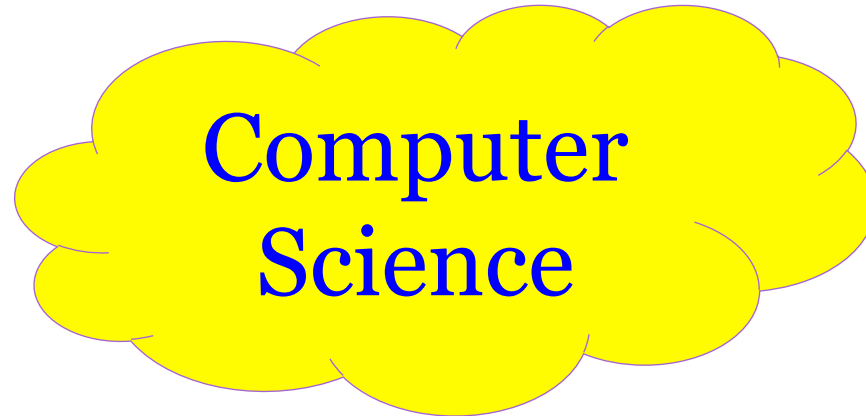
Starting Sept 2014
in England

Aims

The National Curriculum for computing aims to ensure that all pupils:

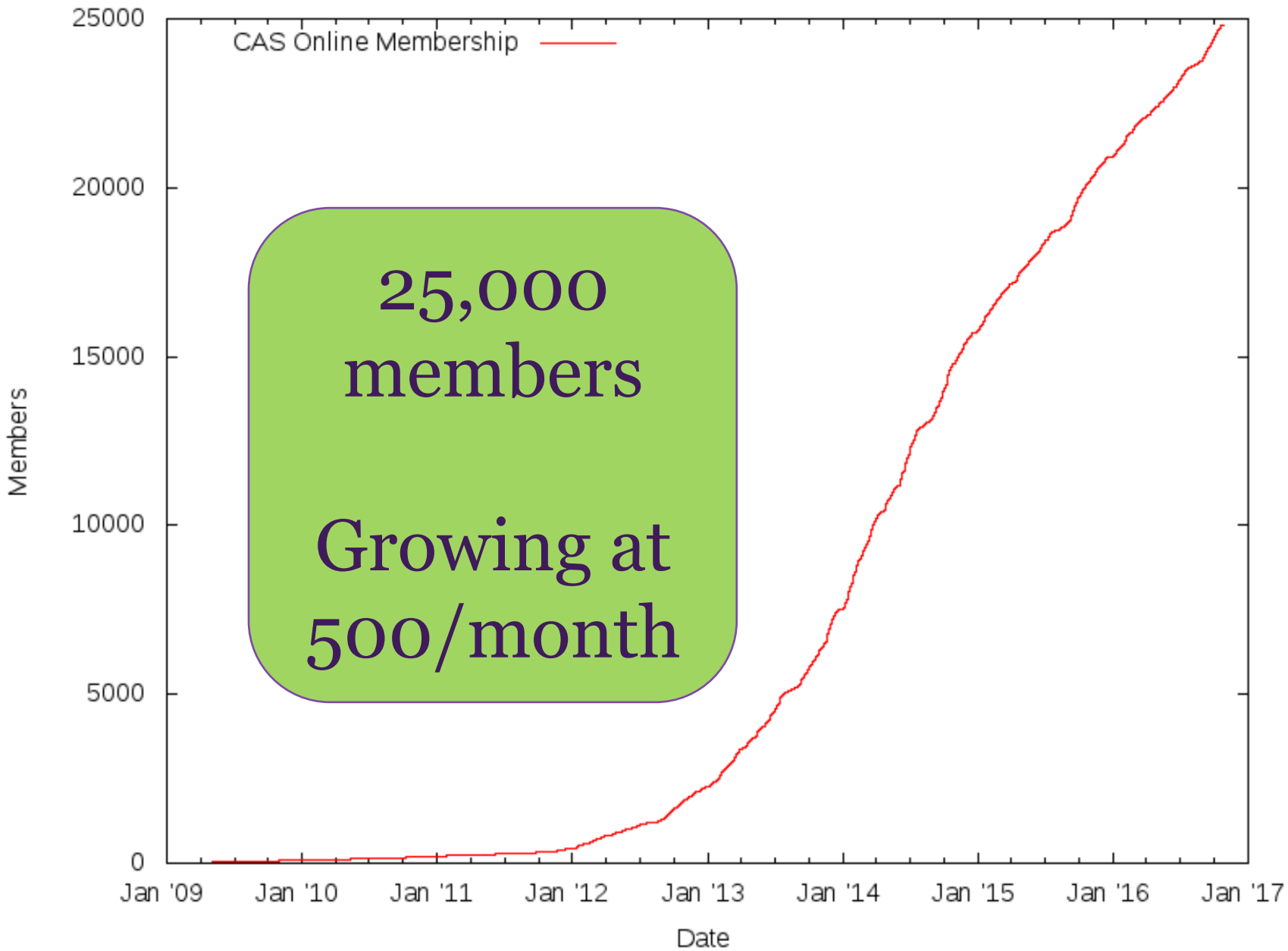
- can understand and apply the fundamental principles of computer science, including logic, algorithms, data representation, and communication
- can analyse problems in computational terms, and have repeated practical experience of writing computer programs in order to solve such problems
- can evaluate and apply information technology, including new or unfamiliar technologies, analytically to solve problems
- are responsible, competent, confident and creative users of information and communication technology.

National Awards



Computing at School launched (2007/8)

- **CAS is a grass roots movement:** teachers, professionals, academics..
- **CAS is a community of practice,** to support, encourage, equip, give vision to computing teachers
- **CAS is independent:** speaks for the subject, not for teachers, or academics, or companies, or govt.



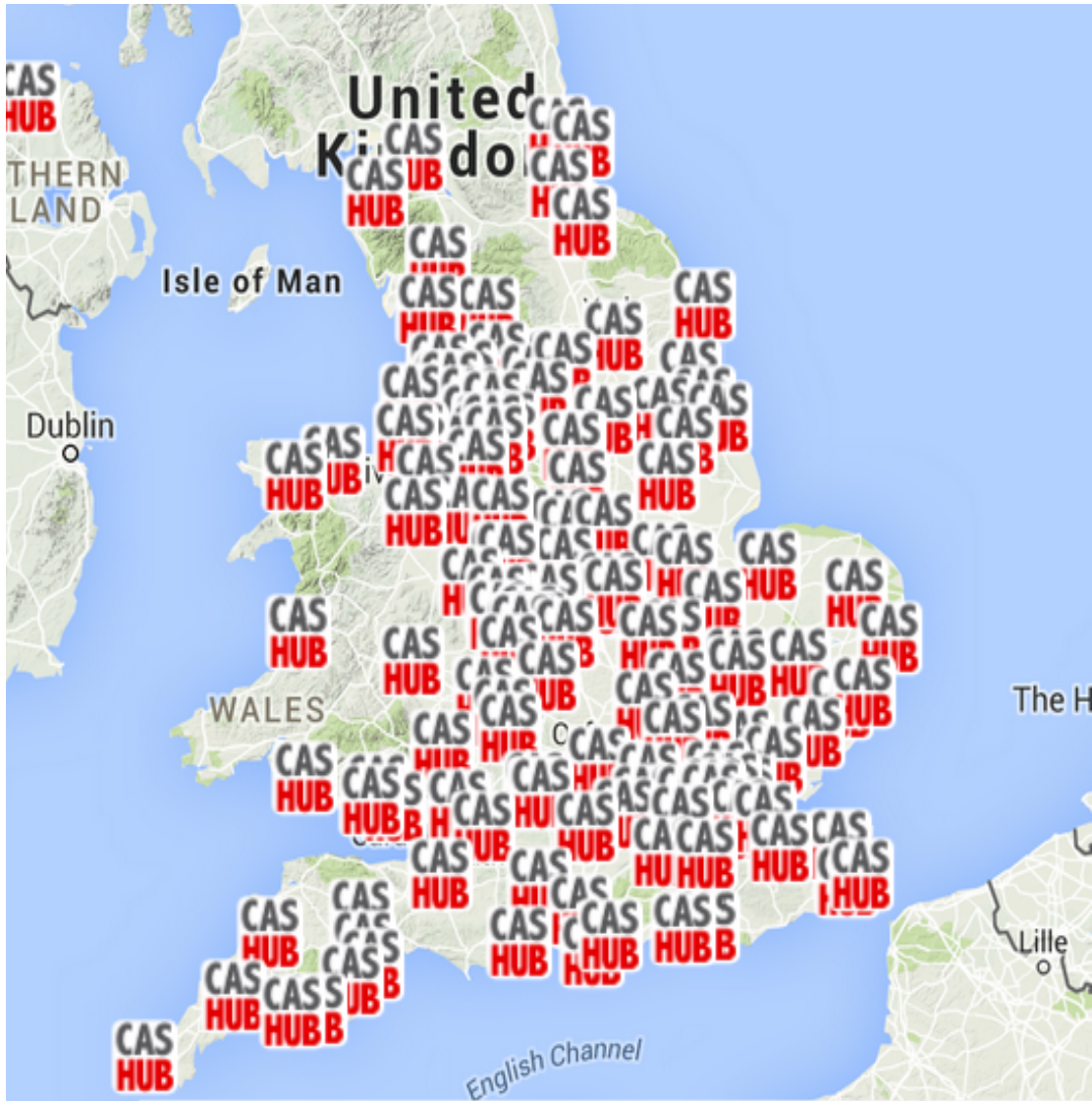
About 3/4 teachers,
both primary and
secondary

But not all!
Developers, IT
professionals,
parents...

UK-centric,
but open to
international
members

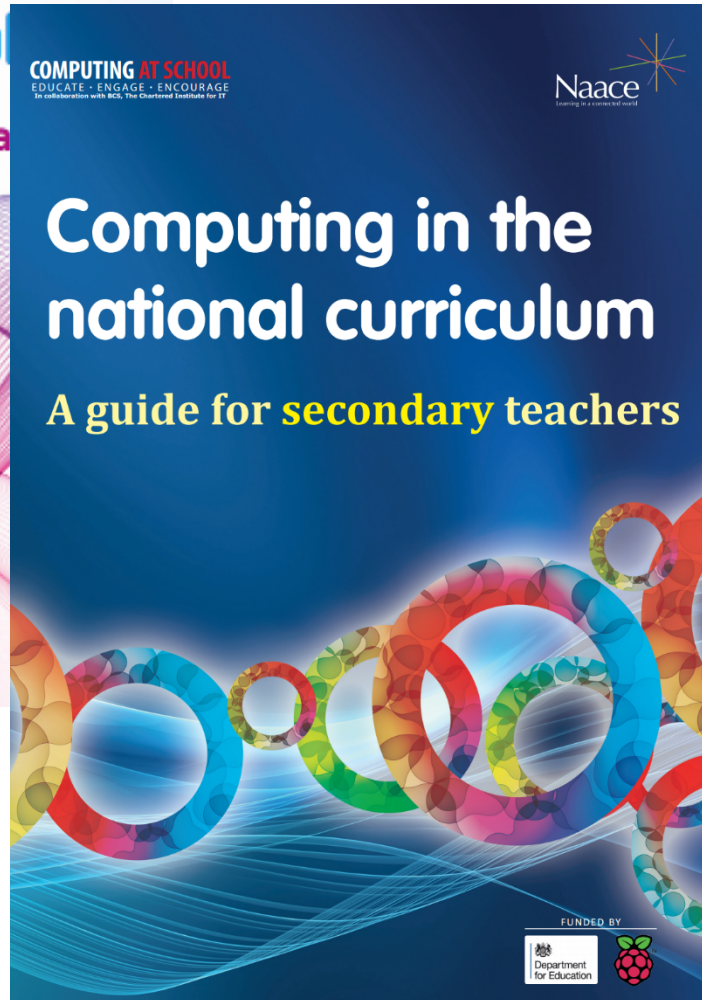
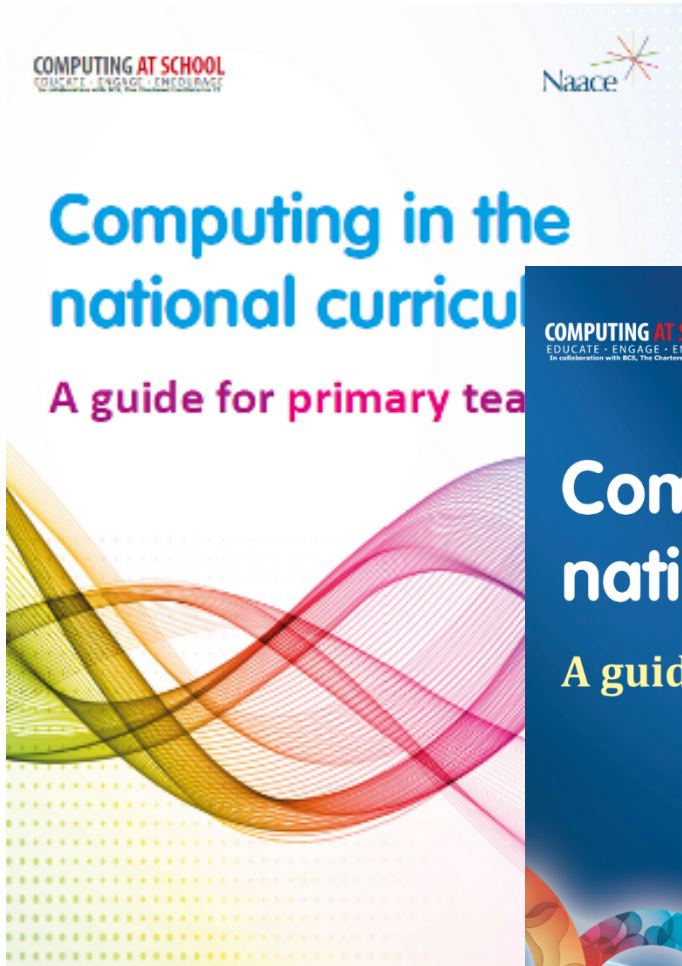


Loose, decentralised organisation



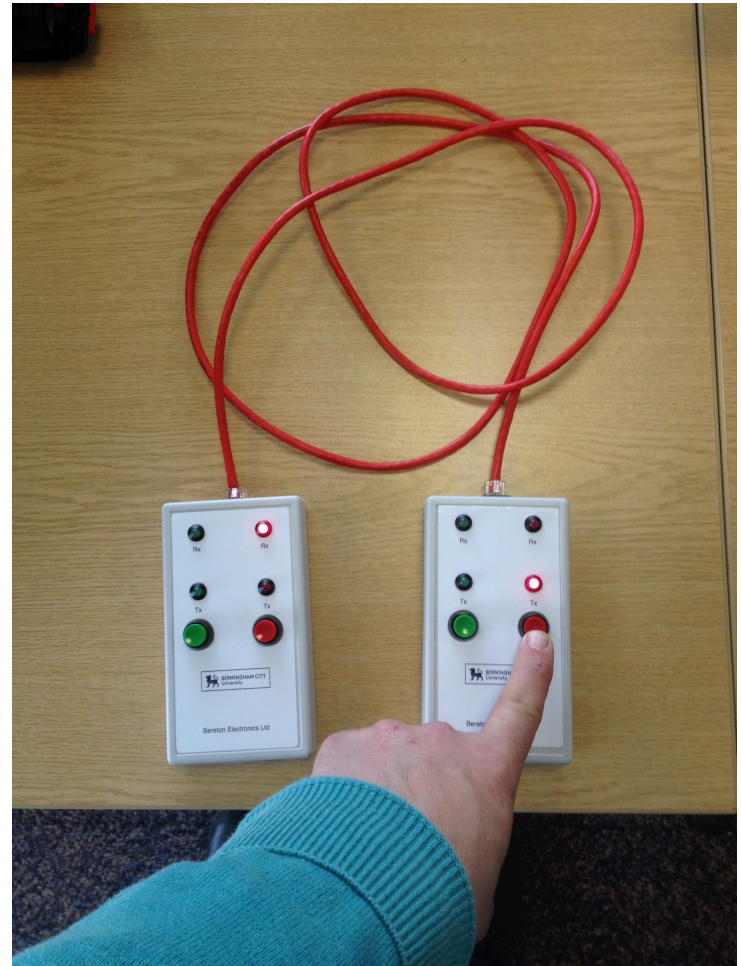
- Ten Regional Centres (based in universities)
- 89 universities
- 200+ Hubs
- 400+ Master Teachers
- 450 Lead Schools
- Masses of training events
- Amazing termly magazine
- Online community

Resources



















How to teach data communications and TCP/IP to a 7 year old

1. Don't teach it
2. Learn through investigation
3. Discover the need for it
4. Develop the solution



6 Bit Binary Coding Scheme

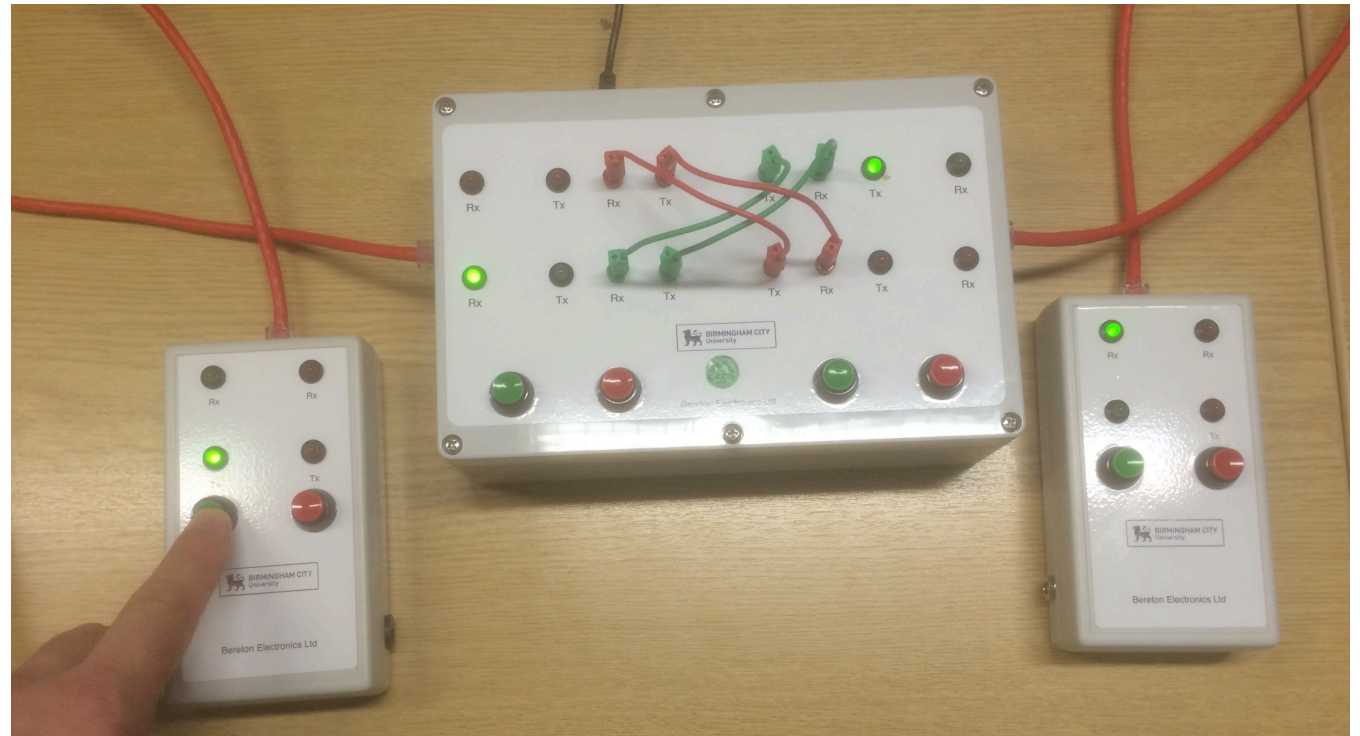
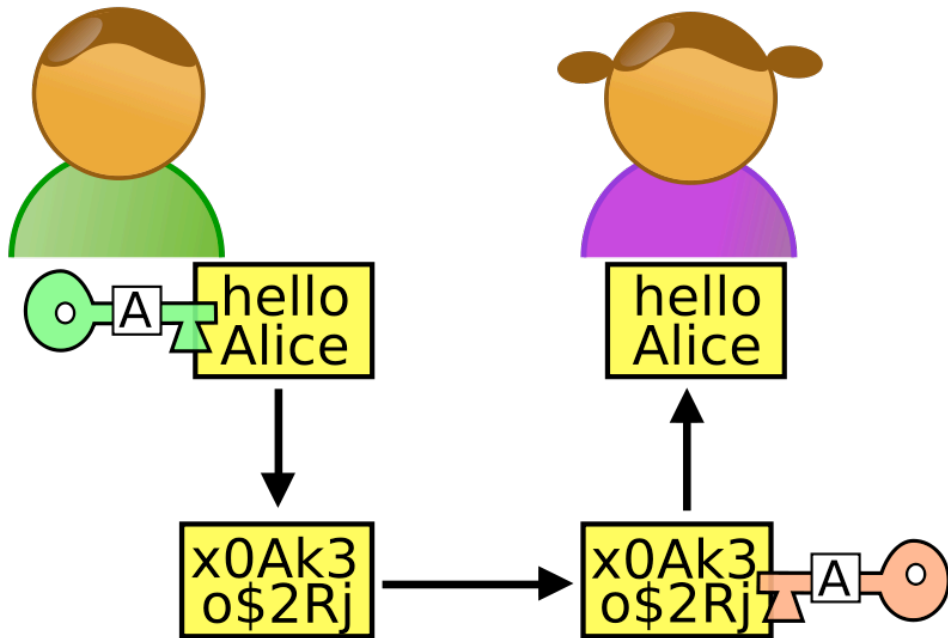
		000	001	010	011	100	101	110	111
									
000		A	I	Q	Y	6	\$		
001		B	J	R	Z	7	%		
010		C	K	S	0	8	*		
011		D	L	T	1	9	(START
100		E	M	U	2	")		END
101		F	N	V	3	!			RESTART
110		G	O	W	4	?			ERROR/ NACK
111		H	P	X	5	£			OK / ACK

Sent the column heading then the row heading. Hence R = 010 001



Break out Boxes - Cryptography -

Hacking and 'Man in the Middle' attacks



Funding

- DfE gives us our baseline funding, currently around £1m/yr.
 - Always vulnerable, but absolutely crucial
- Employers have been generous; typically project funding:
 - QuickStart (Microsoft)
 - Barefoot (BT)
 - Tenderfoot (Google)



Department for Education



Academy
of Computing



Microsoft Google™

Ensoft

BT



Concepts

Logic
predicting & analysing

Algorithms
making steps & rules

Decomposition
breaking down into parts

Patterns
spotting & using similarities

Abstraction
removing unnecessary
detail

Evaluation
making judgement

The Computational Thinker:
Concepts & Approaches



Tinkering
experimenting & playing

Creating
designing & making

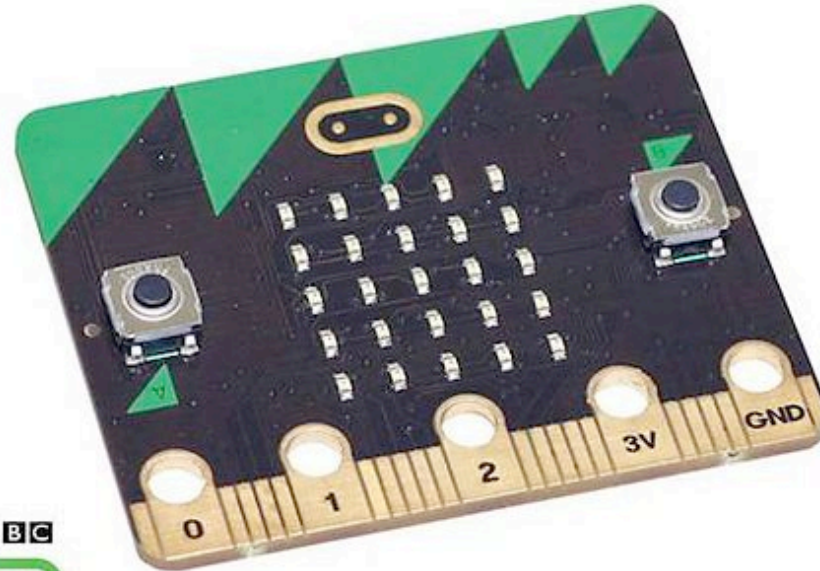
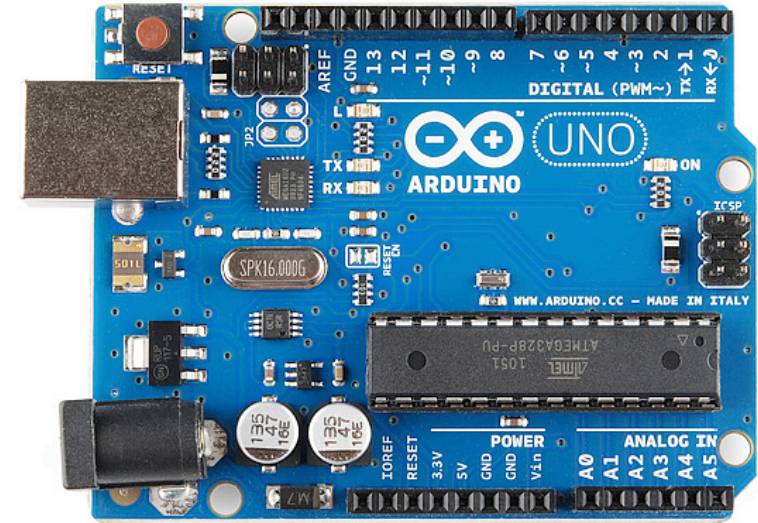
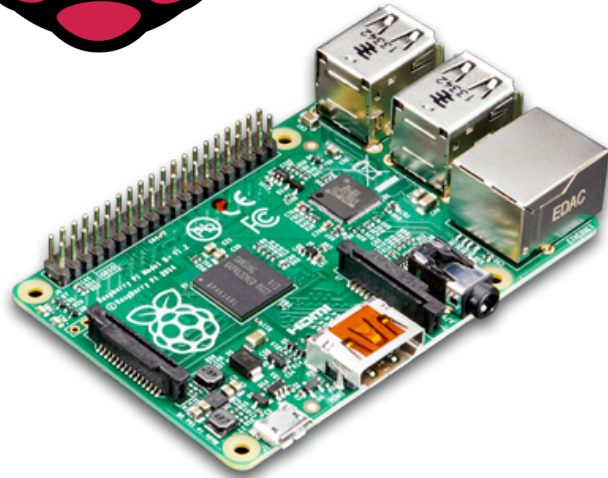
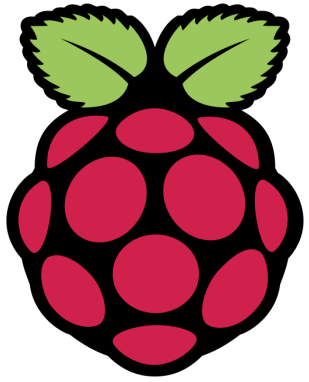
Debugging
finding & fixing
errors

Persevering
keeping going

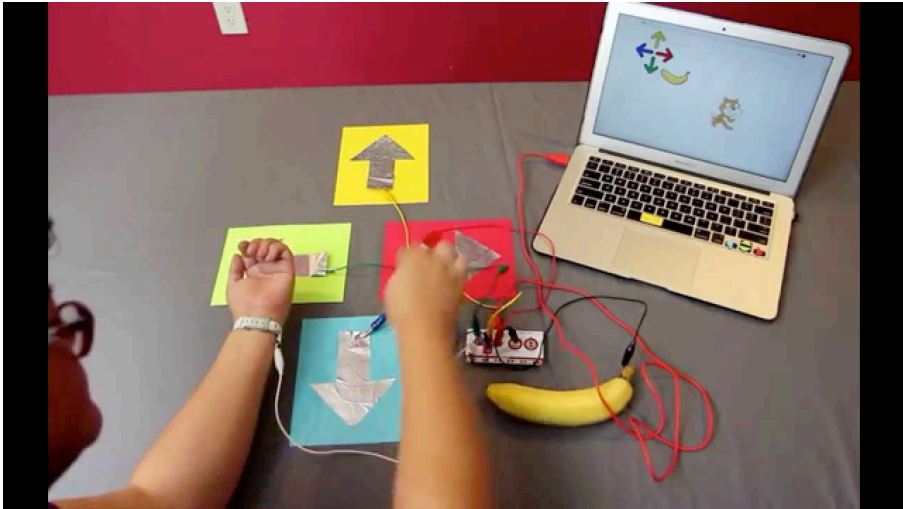
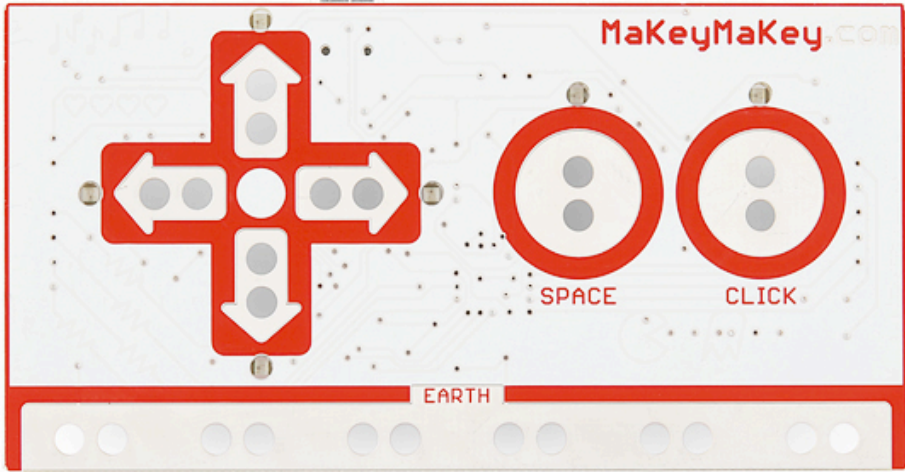
Collaborating
working together

Approaches

Other Supporting Hardware Initiatives



Computer I/O – Makey Makey



Coding



```
repeat forever
do
  turn right
  + if wall ahead
  then turn left
  + if wall ahead
  then turn left
  + if not wall ahead
  then move forward
```

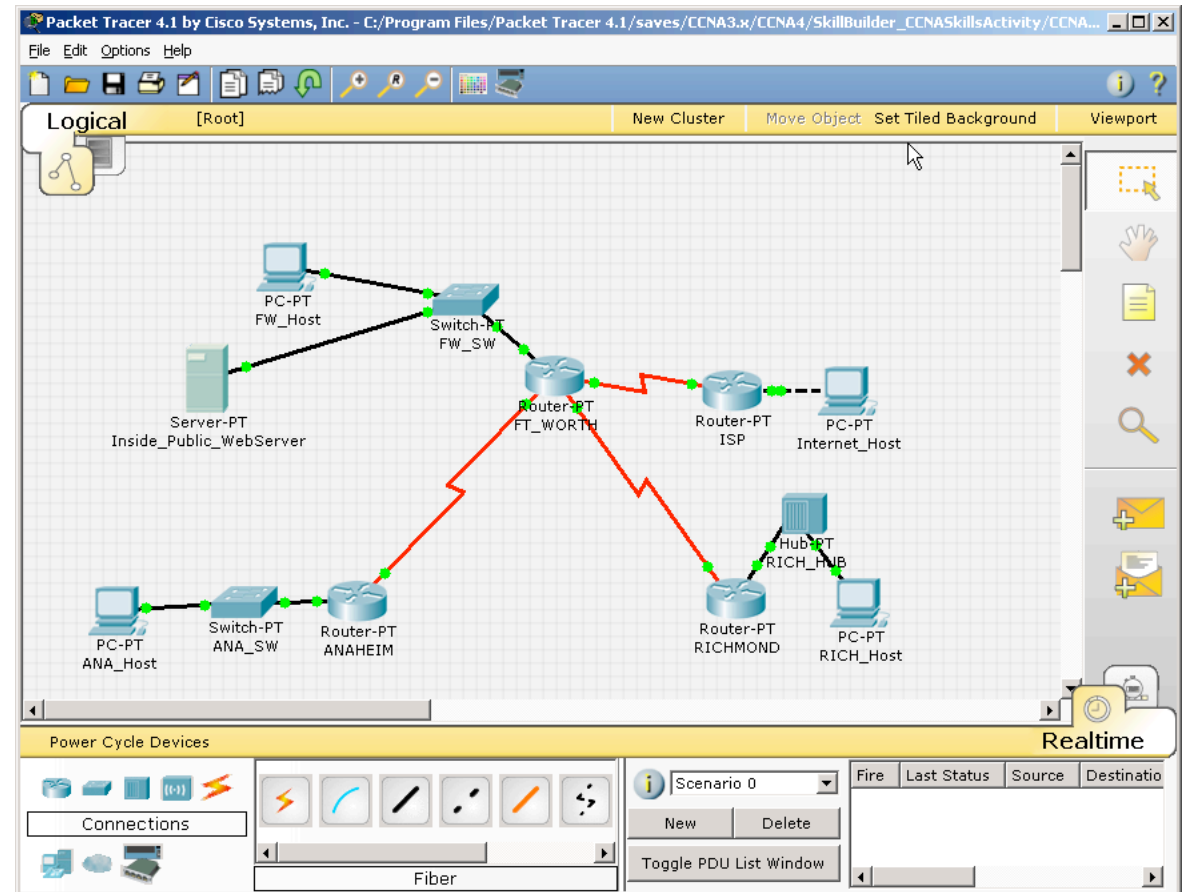


Coding in Python to build the Minecraft World



Cisco Network Academy

A course on data communications and Computer Networking



Lessons: what worked for us

- **A singular focus:** CS as a foundational subject
- **An educational message,** not just an instrumental one
- **A single voice,** not competing special interests
- **An independent, grass-roots group,** not an employers group, not a teachers group, not a higher-ed group
- **Support from professional bodies** (e.g. Royal Soc): influences civil servants
- **Support from industry leaders** (e.g. Eric Schmidt speech): influences politicians
- **Don't wait for policy change:** just get on with it
- **Luck:** the Review of the National Curriculum was hugely serendipitous

Key links collected here

<http://community.computingschool.org.uk/resources/3084>

Engaged,
curious

Empowered,
informed

Creative,
playful

Employed



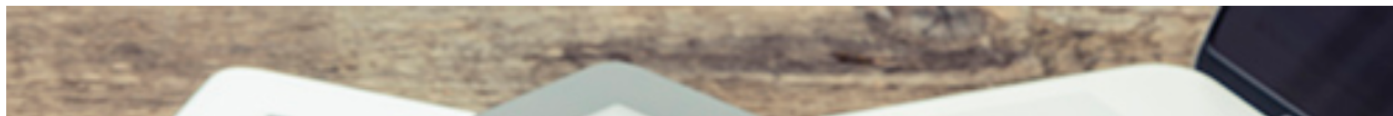
Sunday 30 October 2016

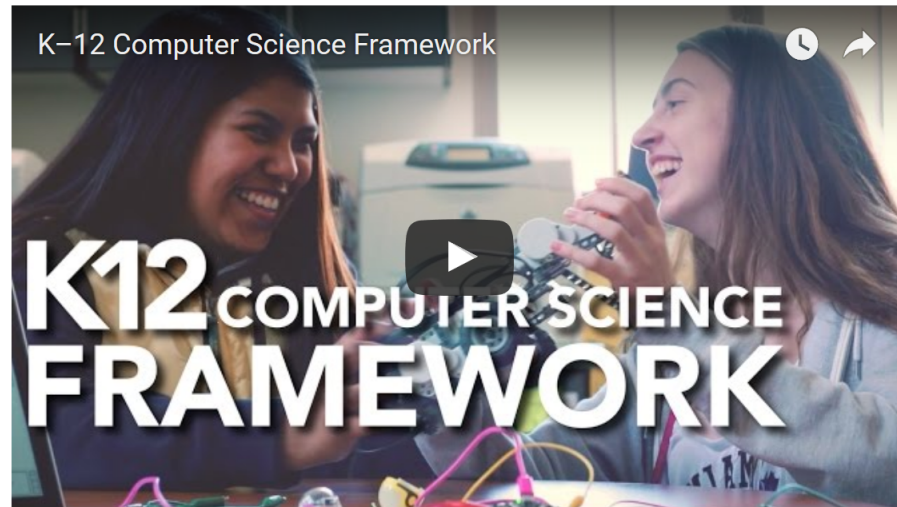
FEATURE

IN PRINT 25 JUL 2016

Digital technologies to become part of the national curriculum

On 5 July Education Minister Hekia Parata announced digital technologies will be fully integrated into *The New Zealand Curriculum* and *Te Marautanga o Aotearoa* from 2018.





Computer science has
driven innovation in every field
and is powering approaches to many of our
world's toughest challenges.

[See the concepts and practices](#)

[Download the framework](#)

The [Association for Computing Machinery](#), [Code.org](#), [Computer Science Teachers Association](#), [Cyber Innovation Center](#), and [National Math and Science Initiative](#) have collaborated with states, districts, and the computer science education community to develop conceptual guidelines for computer science education.

The *K-12 Computer Science Framework* comes at a time when our nation's education systems are adapting to a 21st century vision of students who are not just computer users but also computationally literate creators who are proficient in the concepts and practices of computer science. States, districts, and organizations can use the framework to inform the development of standards and curriculum, build capacity for teaching computer science, and implement computer science pathways.

The framework provides a unifying vision to guide computer science from a subject for the fortunate few to an opportunity for all.

Informatics education: Europe cannot afford to miss the boat

Report of the joint
Informatics Europe & ACM Europe Working Group
on Informatics Education
April 2013

Informatics Europe:
Walter Gander (chair), ETH Zurich, Switzerland
Antoine Petit, Inria & ENS Cachan, France
Christophe Dumortier, Collège de France

THE
ROYAL
SOCIETY

Education Research & policy Partnership Grants Associate Sch

Computing in Schools
Shut down or restart?

January 2012

Teaching computer science in France

Tomorrow can't wait

Report of the
Académie des Sciences
(French Academy of Sciences)

May 2013



CEPIS
Council of European Professional
Informatics Societies

Computing in Schools

A Call for Action from Informatics Societies

Autumn 2014

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[@djmaidens](https://twitter.com/djmaidens)

[@CompAtSch](https://twitter.com/CompAtSch)

