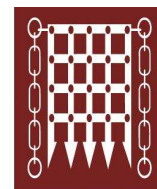


Westminster Education Forum Keynote Seminar: The future of computing education in schools - assessing the new curriculum, supporting teachers and developing digital skills for industry

Timing: Morning, Thursday, 10th December 2015

Venue: Sixty One Whitehall, London SW1A 2ET



**WESTMINSTER
EDUCATION
FORUM**

Agenda subject to change

- 8.30 - 9.00 Registration and coffee
- 9.00 - 9.05 **Chair's opening remarks**
Chi Onwurah MP, Chair, All-Party Parliamentary Group on Internet, Communications and Technology and Shadow Minister for Culture & the Digital Economy
- 9.05 - 9.30 **The importance of computing**
Dr Bill Mitchell, Director of Education, BCS - The Chartered Institute for IT
Questions and comments from the floor
- 9.30 - 9.45 **Case study: coding, programming and digital technology - inspiring tomorrow's innovators**
Early indications following the distribution of the BBC's 'Micro Bit' to all Year 7 students nationwide, on progress in encouraging more children to engage in basic programming and coding; how else might technology experts, companies and industry work with schools to better promote digital creativity?
Jessica Cecil, Controller, BBC Make it Digital
- 9.45 - 10.45 **Assessing the computing curriculum - computer science, embedding digital literacy and developing skills for employment**
How successfully has the new computing curriculum been embedded since its introduction in September 2014 - what support might be needed by schools to help with implementation issues, such as overcoming lack of appropriate resources, and what form might this take? How prepared are schools for the introduction of the new Computer Science GCSE, due for first teaching in September 2016, and is adequate support available to help teachers with its implementation? Given the curriculum's focus on computer science, how valid are concerns that Information and Communication Technology (ICT) and basic skills, such as typing, will likely be neglected? What has been the impact of the Code Club, which runs after-school coding workshops for 9-11 year olds - how effective has it been in supplementing children's understanding and application of the curriculum? Should digital literacy be regarded as a third core subject, alongside numeracy and literacy, as has been suggested by the House of Lords Digital Skills Committee? Has the new curriculum sufficiently met the expectations of employers and how can schools, businesses, universities, NGOs and professional bodies work together to better prepare students for employment and the digital economy?
Rob Leeman, Computer Science and ICT Subject Specialist, OCR
Lauren Hyams, Head of Code Club Teacher Training, Code Club
Dave Smith, Senior Vice-Chair, Naace
Clare Riley, Group Manager, Education Relations, Microsoft
Desmond Deehan, Headteacher, Townley Grammar School, Kent
Questions and comments from the floor with **Jessica Cecil**, Controller, BBC Make it Digital
- 10.45 - 11.05 **Innovation and skills: meeting the needs of the digital and tech industries**
Oliver Quinlan, Programme Manager, Digital Education, NESTA
Questions and comments from the floor
- 11.05 - 11.10 **Chair's closing remarks**
Chi Onwurah MP, Chair, All-Party Parliamentary Group on Internet, Communications and Technology and Shadow Minister for Culture & the Digital Economy
- 11.10 - 11.40 Coffee
- 11.40 - 11.45 **Chair's opening remarks**
Clare McDonald, Business Editor, Computer Weekly
- 11.45 - 11.55 **'Using app development to bring the computing curriculum to life'**
Debbie Forster, Co-Chief Executive Officer, Apps for Good
- 11.55 - 12.55 **Identifying and supporting the next generation of computing teachers**
Will the increase in bursaries for 2014-15, as well as offering scholarships of £25,000 for the highest achieving students, be enough to attract more graduates into computing teaching; what further measures, besides financial incentives, might be considered? Given concerns that many teachers remain insufficiently equipped to teach the new curriculum, what more can be done to improve the proficiency of the workforce - does government's new £3.6m fund, which will put technology experts into primary schools to support teachers, provide a possible template for how this might be achieved? What has been the impact of the Computing At School programme, which provides training and resources for computing teachers, and how successful has it been in establishing local networks of 'master teachers'? What further efforts can be made to support the Continuing Professional Development (CPD) of computing teachers; does the increased availability of Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs) provide an alternative and more flexible way of offering CPD?
Clare Fenwick, Senior Lecturer in Education: Primary Computing, Oxford Brookes University
Miles Berry, Principal Lecturer, Subject Leader - Computing Education, School of Education, University of Roehampton
Simon Humphreys, National Coordinator, Computing At School
Katie O'Donovan, Public Policy and Government Relations Manager, Google
Jason Budge, Designated Specialist Leader in Education for ICT, Devon Teaching School Partnership
Questions and comments from the floor with **Debbie Forster**, Co-Chief Executive Officer, Apps for Good
- 12.55 - 13.00 **Chair's and Westminster Education Forum closing remarks**
Clare McDonald, Business Editor, Computer Weekly
Neil Andrews, Senior Researcher, Westminster Education Forum