BCS, The Chartered Institute for IT, Academy of Computing Board
School Curriculum and Assessment Committee

Notes of the meeting held on 13 November 2019 at 11:30
BCS, The Chartered Institute for IT, 25 Copthall Ave, London EC2R 7BP

Present

Prof	Muffy	Calder	MC	Chair, University of Glasgow
Mrs	Julia	Adamson	JA	BCS Director of Education, Academy of Computing
Mr	Miles	Berry	MB	University of Roehampton
Mr	James	Donkin	JD	Ocado Technology
Mr	Dave	Gibbs	DG	STEM Learning
Ms	Helen	Harth	HH	Loughborough University
Mr	Peter	Kemp	PK	King's College London
Mr	Robert	Leeman	RL	Arm
Mr	Niel	McLean	NM	BCS Head of Education
Prof	Simon	Peyton Jones	SPJ	Microsoft
Ms	Katy	Potts	KP	Islington Council
Mr	Neil	Rickus	NR	Raspberry Pi Foundation
Dr	Sue	Sentance	SS	Raspberry Pi Foundation
Mr	James	Spencer	JS	St Martins School
Mrs	Jane	Waite	JWa	CAS London, QMUL
Ms	Liz	Williams	LW	BT
Mr	Matthew	Wimpenny Smith	MWS	Headington School
Dr	John	Woollard	JWo	University of Southampton, CAS Assessment Working Group

Observers

Ms	Lucy	Ireland	LI	BCS Learning & Development Deputy CEO
Ms	Nicole	Jackson	NJ	Department for Education
Ms	Samina	Kiddier	SK	Department for Education

In attendance

Mrs	Maxine	Leslie	ML	Meeting Secretary

Apologies

Ms	Helen	Bowles	Ofqual
Dr	Jon	Chippindall	Crumpsall Lane Primary School
Prof	Tom	Crick	BCS Academy of Computing Vice President, Swansea University
Prof	James	Davenport	BCS Academy of Computing Chair/Vice President,

			University of Bath
Mr	Peter	Dring	Fulford School
Ms	Catherine	Elliott	Sheffield City Council
Sir	Mark	Grundy	Shireland Collegiate Academy Trust
Mr	Atif	Khan	Pearson
Mr	Peter	Marshman	Leighton Park School
Dr	Bill	Mitchell	BCS Director of Public Affairs
Ms	Sarah	Old	Ofqual
Ms	Carrie Anne	Philbin	Raspberry Pi Foundation
Dr	Saima	Rana	Westminster Academy
Ms	Liz	Walters	Ofqual

1.   Welcome, apologies, declaration of conflicts of interests & Chair's Report

The Chair welcomed all attendees and apologies for absence were received as above. There were no conflicts of interest to note.

A number of meetings had taken place since the Committee last met in June. SPJ and MC had met with Michelle Dyson and Nabil Ali (DfE) and SPJ, MC and JA had held meetings with both Ofqual and Ofsted, all of which were very positive and supportive. The plan was to have regular meetings moving forward.

SPJ had met the Minister for Education in his role as NCCE Chair, predominantly to share thinking. One discussion point was the question of the prohibited overlap between technical awards and GCSE Computer Science.

The textbook usage question had been discussed with Michelle Dyson and Members had varying views. It was noted that the CS Isaac website works well in place of textbooks but textbooks were useful in conveying theory of the subject and could be annotated easily. However they could not as usefully contain links to other resources. SS indicated that Raspberry Pi Foundation (as part of the work by DfE and the NCCE) is in the process of reviewing international CS books and Cambridge Assessment has also done some generic work on textbooks. There are different kinds of "textbook", including "workbooks" (NCCE), "textbooks" (Isaac Physics), "revision guides", "teachers' guides" and "schemes of work". **Action: MWS to look at compiling a glossary of terms for this terminology and a paper to frame these questions with input from SS, Phil Bagge and Mark Dorling**

2.   Actions from previous meeting held on 11 June 2019

Members APPROVED the notes from the previous meeting. An action from the last meeting, not covered on the agenda or completed:

June2019.6 Devolved nations qualifications summary
JW had undertaken to work on the draft and had sought data from NI, Wales and Scotland, most of which was still pending. SS indicated that some work had been done on the qualifications available and how they compare which she undertook to share with JW. In terms of qualifications in Wales, T Crick had offered to share the latest information with the Committee at the next meeting. For Scotland, a Scottish Computing Education Committee was being set up which would report to this group with that information. For Northern Ireland, the plan was to work with Dr Irene Bell. It would be good to feature a

different nation at each meeting. **Action: SS to share existing work on devolved nations with JW; JA to invite TC to next meeting**

2.1 NCCE Update

It was reported that NCCE was now a year old and a graduation ceremony had been held to recognise over 200 teachers that have completed the Computer Science Accelerator Programme. The resource repository has been launched and there have been 6,000 registrations on Isaac CS (about 5,000 students and 1,000 teachers). The gender balance workstream is on-going, which is a research programme based around random interventions to see how to gender balance should be addressed. This includes non-formal learning, more collaborative teaching approaches, KS1 & storytelling and belonging testimonials. These interventions are not restricted to girls.

Year 1 of NCCE was focussed on developing the offer and building the infrastructure and Year 2 is scaling it up. We are looking to develop capacity in the system to equip 8,000 GCSE CS teachers to match a demand of 220,000 students in schools.

3. Key Stage 4 Options Appraisal document including conclusions

The Chair introduced the paper which outlines seven different options and conclusions about which options we should be pursuing. These had not been shared with DfE at the recent meeting but there had been talk around the options to see how they might fit in around DfE's thinking. It was noted that DfE is thinking about discontinuing the short courses.. SK undertook to seek more information on this. **Action: SK to look into communicating DfE's thinking in a more systematic way.**

The Chair guided Members through each of the seven options and feedback was discussed and captured in the live document [Link to document in Google Drive to follow shortly].

In concluding the discussion, the Chair thanked Members for providing interesting perspectives on each option and it was suggested that tactics/strategy be added and perhaps a road map at the end. **Action: JA/NM to amend and push out to SCAC or devolve to Chair/SPJ and then out to Committee; JA/MC/NM/SPJ to consider the next step in using the finalised document**

4. Governance (MC/ML)

4.1 BCS SCAC Terms of Reference

The five governance documents were NOTED and the Committee APPROVED the updated Terms of Reference and these will be forwarded to the Academy of Computing Board for ratification. **Action: ML to forward updated ToRs to the BCS Academy of Computing Board**

5. Update on brochure

The Chair introduced the graphic that had been produced explained that it had been used in the discussion with Michelle Dyson at DfE, in addition to the following messages.

Computing will help my child:
- Get ahead in a career
- Contribute to global challenges
- Be creative (in a digital world)

- Speak wisely on technology issues

The aim was for computing education to contribute to local, national and global challenges and the brochure should be tailored to each nation. The Chair recorded suggestions made and undertook to test the resultant draft on a few people. **Action: MC to continue work on the draft brochure**

6.   Agreed actions and AOB

Agreed actions as above and in detail below. There was no AOB and the Chair thanked all attendees.

7.   Date of next meeting

The next meeting will be on Thursday 19 March 2020 at 11:00-13:00, followed by lunch.

Actions -   responsible people in red

November2019.1 Chair's Report
Look at compiling a glossary of terms for 'workbook' terminology and a paper to frame textbook usage questions with input from SS, Phil Bagge and Mark Dorling. MWS

November2019.2 Devolved nations qualifications summary
Share existing work on devolved nations with JW. SS
Support JW on the drafting of the document and invite TC to next meeting to present on the situation in Wales. JA

November2019.3 Key Stage 4 Options Appraisal document
Look into communicating DfE's thinking in a more systematic way. SK
Amend document and push out to SCAC or devolve to Chair/SPJ and then out to Committee. Also, work on the VTQ review and the ofqual submission. JA/NM
Consider the next step in using the finalised document. JA/MC/NM/SPJ
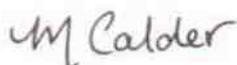
November2019.4 Governance
Forward updated ToRs to ACB. ML

November2019.5 Parents brochure
Test the updated draft brochure with key people. MC

June2019.2 NCCE and CAS repositories
Effective communication is needed to the community about how NCCE and CAS repositories can be accessed. CAP is writing a post explaining how the two fit together. CAP

Signed: _____   _____

Prof Muffy Calder
Chair of School Curriculum and Assessment Committee