BCS: Scottish Computing Education CommitteeTerms of Reference

Responsible Body	Academy of Computing Board
Version Number	1
Prepared by	Julia Adamson
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Summary Of Revisions Made	Version	Date
Initial version	V1	27 January 2020

Remit

The main purpose of the Committee is to facilitate communication between interested parties – teachers, Higher and Further Education staff, government agencies and learned societies – who seek to support and improve Scottish Computing education at all levels.

The Committee will:
1. Regularly review the current landscape of computing education in Scotland to monitor the extent to which
   a. the curriculum and qualifications are fit for purpose given both the fast moving pace of Computing contexts and the fundamental principles of the discipline,
   b. there are suitable learning and teaching resources for each area of the curriculum for each stage of learner,
   c. educators are confident in their pedagogical and content knowledge,
   d. learners are satisfied with what and how they learn about Computing, and
   e. there is adequate support for Computing education across the country so that everyone has access to high quality Computing learning.
2. Plan coherent programmes of work to address any current or projected shortcomings identified during the review process.
3. Support educators to develop their pedagogic and content knowledge through high quality professional learning.
4. Foster productive collaboration between Computing educators in schools, colleges and universities, and with industry colleagues.
5. Ensure that Computing education is informed by research evidence.
6. Advise policy makers and national bodies on matters relating to Computing education, acting as a single point of contact for advice across the sector and co-ordinating as a single body with external stakeholders.

7. Advocate for excellence in Computing education in Scotland and raise the profile of Computing within the country.
8. Share learning with similar organisations in the rest of the UK, and other countries across the world.

Organisation

1. The Committee will be composed of members nominated from a wide range of Stakeholder Groups. A non-exclusive, indicative list follows. Representatives from national bodies will be invited to observe or advise, as appropriate. From time to time, the committee may engage with the national bodies on joint projects.
2. The Committee will follow the organisation, rules and procedures common to other BCS Academy of Computing Committees.
3. The Committee will liaise closely with the BCS Academy of Computing Schools Curriculum and Assessment Committee.

Indicative Stakeholder Groups

- **Teachers:** secondary Computing specialists and primary teachers, as well as representation from special schools and nurseries as appropriate. Representation from CAS Scotland
- **Learners:** we will seek input from students at all levels to inform the shape of the Committee using appropriate and engaging methods
- **Higher and Further Education:** individual Informatics/Computer Science and Education staff from Scottish Universities and Further Education Colleges, and representatives from Scottish Informatics and Computer Science Alliance (SICSA) Education and the Scottish Schools Education Research Centre (SSERC)
- **Industry:** Scotland IS representative plus individual members, and other relevant professional bodies
- **Learned and professional societies**: RSE and RSE Young Academy, RS, BCS, IET, ACM
- **National bodies:** Scottish Government Learning Directorate, Education Scotland, Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA), Skills Development Scotland (SDS), STEMnet.

Approval and Review

These Terms of Reference shall be approved by the BCS Academy of Computing Board. The Scottish Computing Education Committee will review them on an annual basis, usually at the first meeting of the academic year.