

NEED TO KNOW- Q&A

“We’re preparing for an automated future”

Zoe Spilberg tells us how learning about robotics can equip students for tomorrow’s jobs market



30 SECOND BRIEFING

Introducing the UK’s first regulated level 1 Robotics qualification, to support young people’s innovation and technology skills at an earlier stage of education, while preparing them for their lives and future careers ahead.

Why do schools need to prepare students today for the working environment of the future?

ZS By 2025, algorithms and intelligent machines are expected to create 133 million new roles globally, while displacing around 75 million – a net gain of 58 million jobs (Source: Capita 2019 Future of Work report).

STEM subjects enable students to acquire the knowledge and skills required for problem solving and innovation, which is essential for future jobs. Technology is moving fast, and schoolteachers are now challenged to give students the tools to solve problems using future technology that may not currently exist.

How should schools look to support their students?

By introducing robotic technology in a fun, hands-on school environment, you are more likely to positively engage young people with technology that will support their future, and which can be built upon throughout their formative learning years. It will support the application of digital and innovative thinking across the curriculum, while setting your students on the right path for their lives and future careers.

With so many resources available online, which should my school choose?

You need to know that what you’re delivering is up to-date and appropriate for the ages and stages of your learners. BCS, The Chartered Institute for IT, in conjunction with the ICDL

BCS LEVEL 1 ROBOTICS AWARD

Give your KS2/3 learners hands-on learning / experience with the UK’s very first regulated Level 1 Robotics Award



Foundation, has developed the UK’s first regulated Level 1 robotics qualification, aimed at learners in KS2/3. The BCS Level 1 Robotics Award introduces foundational skills and knowledge in robotics – making technology fun at an earlier stage of education, while embedding a basic understanding of programming concepts.

This will help pupils confidently interact with the type of mechanical devices increasingly used to automate everyday tasks. Plus, your students get to build and control their own robot as part of the programme, gaining a Level 1 certificate upon successful completion. This is all fantastic for developing



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the kind of student innovation and progression that will support a future jobs market.

What is the BCS Level 1 Robotics Award?

The Award consists of two tests – one offline and one online – with a recommended GLH for the programme of 37 hours. The first offline phase can be delivered within collaborative working groups or individually. The second phase involves a 45-minute online test comprising multiple choice questions.

Taking on another qualification is onerous – how can schools embed it?

To support schools in delivering the qualification we have created teacher and learner eBooks. The Learner eBook contains 16 lessons, each with a set of learning objectives, learning materials and a review exercise.

The Teacher eBook contains an overview of robotics, planning considerations, lesson plans, a list of required resources, activity descriptions and useful links. BCS will also run two ‘train the trainer’ webinars to support teachers with delivering the programme.

What’s the difference?

- + Positively engages learners at an earlier stage of education
- + Builds learner confidence
- + Develops student innovation and progression that will support them in an increasingly automated job market