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## Bett 2016 preview

To find out what's trending at Bett 2016 and discover some of the hot topics that will be discussed at the show Click [here](#) to go to the ICT website to download a copy of the ICT for Education BETT 2016 Preview

## Bett 2016 promotes edtech innovation and practical implementation

Bett 2016 opens next Wednesday, 20 January at ExCeL London, bringing together a great line-up of speakers, over 600 of the world's most innovative education technology companies and an expected audience of over 35,000 visitors over four days.

Now in its 32nd year, the event provides a dynamic and diverse programme of content offering rich opportunities for professional development, inspirational talks and debates from world-leading education experts in the purpose built Bett Arena amphitheatre, as well as practitioner led seminars and workshops developed to address key issues in education and support collaborative links between educators.

Bett 2016 will open with a keynote presentation by Sugata Mitra, Professor of Educational Technology at the School of Education, Communication and Language Sciences at Newcastle University. Mitra will talk to the title 'Connecting global educators and learners'. Following Bett tradition, the keynote will be followed by a ministerial address from Nicky Morgan, Secretary of State for Education and Minister for Women and Equalities.

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## LEGO Education brings computing to life with WeDo 2.0

LEGO Education will introduce version 2.0 of WeDo, a hands-on science and computing solution designed for primary schools, at Bett 2016. The solution combines LEGO bricks, classroom friendly software and projects based on National Curriculum objectives to teach key stage 1 and key stage 2 pupils science and computing practices and skills. WeDo 2.0 includes over 40 hours of curriculum aligned lesson activities, for example, the 'Drop and Rescue' project that challenges pupils to design a device to reduce the impact on humans, animals and the environment after an area has been damaged by a weather related hazard. There is no single right answer in any of develop the activities, a feature



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designed to develop creativity and problem solving skills. It also enables teachers to tailor lessons to meet pupils' needs whatever their ability.

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### Capita SIMS offers an assessment solution for life after levels

Capita SIMS will showcase the latest tools within SIMS Assessment at Bett 2016. The tools are designed to help teachers and schools monitor attainment and track pupil progress within any school, no matter how the school chooses to approach assessment following the removal of levels.

SIMS Assessment contains all the Department for Education's programmes of study statements, so teachers can record achievement exactly as it happens in the classroom and glean information needed to inform future teaching and learning activities. Curriculum statements can be added or customised, so, for example, English teachers reporting on a series of Shakespeare assignments can substitute official terminology with statements that clearly reflect whether a student has understood a particular text. Jayne Mullane, headteacher of Mersey Vale Primary School, says: "We wanted our assessment to focus on our curriculum priorities and give a clear overview of the progress of all our children. SIMS Assessment gives us a clear view of how children are moving forward and at what pace, along with a breakdown for individuals or groups of pupils. It is a great tool for analysing the progress of children in a whole range of ways."

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### 3P Learning adds science app to software portfolio

3P Learning has added a science app to its portfolio of digital resources for primary and secondary schools. IntoScience brings the theory of science to life through an immersive and engaging interactive 3D environment in which pupils in key stages 3 and 4 can discover, learn, play and recall scientific knowledge.

Covering all fields of science, the resource is strong on pupil engagement and enquiry based learning, allowing children to enter a 3D high definition world packed with virtual experiments and deep contextual examples where they can expand their learning through enquiry, knowledge, application and reasoning. All topics and activities are linked to the National Curriculum objectives.

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### BlueSky Education updates school performance solution

BlueSky Education has enhanced the school self-evaluation and collaboration modules within its online staff development, professional learning and evaluation solution. The updated version of the self-evaluation module of BlueSky, which is designed to give school leaders greater autonomy and improve professional engagement and local accountability, goes beyond amalgamating self-evaluation evidence to allow school leaders to create their own criteria for auditing school self-evaluation and to focus on individual school priorities.

Schools can triangulate evidence from observations and the impact of professional learning to support judgments about team or whole school performance, and create team or whole school self-evaluation forms. Using these evaluations, school leaders can determine actions for inclusion in team or whole school improvement plans, monitor progress and create live executive summary snapshots of school performance that can be used to engage staff in the school improvement process.

The BlueSky projects module allows a group of teachers from one or more schools to collaborate in a secure and private environment. Teachers could share best practice or action research, keep up-to-date with a working party across the country or focus on

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*Sarah Underwood*



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