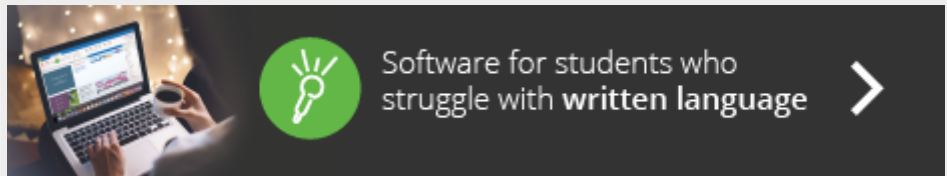




Helping teachers with today's technology



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Bett 2017 offers Learn Live sessions and a School Leaders Summit

Bett returns to ExCEL London from 25 to 28 January 2017 with a focus on game changers within education – the people, products and organisations that create an impact on teaching and learning. The exhibition is free to attend, but to save time you can pre-register at www.bettshow.com.

Key features at Bett 2017 include the Bett Arena, which offers sessions that mix practical advice, insight, inspiration and tools. Speakers include Heston Blumenthal, Sir David Carter, Elspeth Finch and Sir Ken Robinson, and you can expect to see exploding science, 3D printed school dinners and world exclusive tech launches.

Perhaps less exciting, but more practical are practitioner-led Learn Live seminars and workshops covering primary, secondary and special educational needs (SEN). These sessions are held in 'classrooms' on the exhibition floor, include speakers from across the education sector, and are designed to provide practical teaching techniques that educators can take away and implement in their own schools.

Growing emphasis on school leadership will be addressed in the School Leaders Summit, which will explore the challenges facing senior leadership teams and how they can be tackled. This summit will also provide an opportunity for school business managers and senior leaders to network and collaborate to come up with forward-thinking solutions to improve leadership. Expanded for Bett 2017, the School Leaders Summit is separated into two streams, the first focusing on challenges, innovation and the future of education, the second addressing the practical and business challenges of leadership in education.

The STEAM Village – science, technology, engineering, art and mathematics – at Bett 2017 will host several organisations supporting learning in STEAM subjects. As well as an interactive space for teachers and students to try out STEAM solutions and products, the village will host a series of panel discussions, dynamic sessions and live demonstrations.

Last but not least, and following a successful launch in 2015 and growth in 2016, Bett Futures returns this year to showcase emerging edtech start-ups and learning solutions that will provoke discussion and debate, and give educators practical ideas on how to improve their own educational practice.

If you cannot get to BETT (or even if you can), register to attend one of the 8 regional conferences being hosted in 2017 by ICT for Education. These conferences address real-world issues and give you solutions and ideas to take back and use in school. See the bottom of this newsletter for how to register.

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Capita SIMS introduces School View and Interventions Tools

Capita SIMS will introduce School View at Bett 2017, a tool that provides academy group leaders with a dashboard of data showing attendance or achievement rates across multiple schools or the whole trust. The solution automatically calculates a

range of key performance measures directly from a school's SIMS management information system (MIS) and allows academy group leaders to identify which schools need more support and where best practice is happening.

The company will also demonstrate its new SIMS Interventions module, which allows schools to track any intervention, whether it is a maths club, peer mentoring or theatre group designed to help pupils who are falling behind or those with behaviour or attendance issues. The system uses achievement and other data in a school's SIMS (MIS) to see the exact impacts of interventions on student outcomes. It also enables schools to measure the cost effectiveness of each intervention and plan and run interventions from one home page, keeping the administration of interventions to a minimum.

As well as these new tools, Capita SIMS will showcase its parent and student apps. The SIMS Parent app allows schools to communicate with parents, perhaps sharing information on attendance, homework or school reports. The app pushes information directly to parents for them to view on their phone, tablet or PC, while a dashboard gives parents an overview of their child's school life and alerts parents if a child has missed a lesson or not handed in homework.

The SIMS Student app helps students keep up to date with everything that is going on in their school life. Whether it is viewing timetables or homework tasks, students can easily access key information outside of school directly from their phone, tablet or PC. Schools can also send alerts to students, for example to remind them to bring their sports kit to school or to show how they are progressing against targets. Available on iOS, Android or via the web, the SIMS Student app can be accessed by students when and where they like.

Find out more about Capita SIMS on Stand B190

Minted Box calls for teachers to submit classroom ideas

Minted Box, the creator of digital classroom seating planner MINTclass, is inviting teachers and school staff to submit ideas in the run up to Bett 2017 and during the event on how to make teaching or school processes more effective. The winning concept will be built and brought to life for free.

All ideas to help schools improve are welcome, no matter how simple or niche. For example, a module to monitor the nutritional value of food in diary form, or a transition portal to reduce the cost and help accurate assessment of pupils moving from Year 6 to Year 7.

Iain Bell, managing director of Minted Box, says: "We believe teachers should have access to solutions that solve their problems. We talk to schools about their frustrations or ideas, and then offer the technical expertise to build resources that provide exactly what they need – nothing more, nothing less.

"We want to provide a direct route for schools fuelled by their own ideas, issues and needs. This is why we're inviting teachers to come to us with their ideas on how to make teaching and school processes more effective, and to enter our competition that will help turn these visions into solid solutions for the benefit of themselves, and other schools."

Minted Box is asking teachers to submit their ideas or everyday dilemmas before, during and after Bett 2017. To enter visit: www.mintclass.com/ideas

Visit Minted Box at Stand F62

LEGO Education runs WeDo and Mindstorms workshops

LEGO Education will run WeDo 2.0 and Mindstorms EV3 workshops at Bett 2017, as well as demonstrations of what LEGO Education resources can achieve in schools. The sessions, supported by Hope Education and JRTS, will give UK teachers the chance to get hands-on with award-winning resources that help revolutionise computing and science, technology, engineering and maths (STEM) lessons through creative exploration. All teachers who pre-book and attend a workshop will receive a free mini



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LEGO set.

WeDo 2.0 is LEGO Education's latest resource for Key Stage 2 that teaches computing in the context of science. Using the classic LEGO brick and a visual coding platform, pupils can build scientific models and bring them to life using motors and sensors. WeDo 2.0 supports a hands-on, minds-on learning solution, giving pupils the confidence to ask questions and find the answers, and encourage them to discover more. Teachers who sign up and attend the primary workshops will be entered into a prize draw to win a full classroom pack of WeDo 2.0.

LEGO Mindstorms Education EV3 is an engineering and robotics solution for secondary pupils in Key Stages 3 and 4 that enables them to explore complex STEM topics in an engaging way. The resource challenges pupils to work like real scientists and develop critical thinking skills through scientific enquiry. Teachers signing up and attending a secondary workshop will be entered into a prize draw for a half-classroom pack of EV3.

In addition, LEGO Education has released its full range of digital content free of charge to teachers. This includes extension projects and curriculum packs for WeDo 2.0 and Mindstorms EV3, as well as eLearning. These can be accessed by visiting:

www.LEGOeducation.com/downloads.

To sign up to the workshops visit: www.LEGOeducation.co.uk/bett

Find out more about LEGO Education at Stand E150

Groupcall celebrates 15 years of innovation

Groupcall celebrates its 15th anniversary at Bett 2017 with the release of Emerge Desktop, the integration of its parental payment software into the Messenger Ecosystem, and demonstrations of how XVault can support local authorities and multi-academy trusts with multi-school reporting, performance and attendance tracking. It will also share its recent whitepapers on assessment without levels and safeguarding guidance, as well as its best practice guide to improving parental engagement. Groupcall will be exhibiting as part of the Microsoft Partner Village, which will concentrate key Microsoft partners in one location.

Lawrence Royston, managing director of Groupcall, says: "We're passionate about consistently adapting and developing our offering to meet the ever-changing and varied needs of schools. The fact that we're celebrating 15 years in the sector is testament that we're doing something right. To mark this special accomplishment, we want to give back to our customers, and what better place to do this than the world's largest education show? We'll be running daily competitions. We'll also be giving away free downloads of our popular parental engagement eBook and access to our most recent research white papers, Implementing Assessment Without Levels: two years on, and New Safeguarding Guidance: what does it mean for your school?"

To find out more visit Groupcall on Stand B188

ICT for Education Local Conferences

To register to attend an ICTforEducation conference in your regional area please click on a venue below.

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