

# ICT

for Education

Trusted by Teachers

# CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

NEWCASTLE | 05 DECEMBER 2025

Attaining the highest  
educational standards  
through the use of ICT

The importance of  
Computing in the  
curriculum

*An article by  
Amy Cartwright*

P.16

Don't miss  
our talks:

*"An update on AI in education"  
from Professor Miles Berry*

*"How to update the  
curriculum and find support"  
from Sarah Zaman*

*"The Digital Dilemma:  
the importance of  
media literacy  
from Allen Tsui*

*Plus many more...*

Don't miss *Product  
Review Live!*



Expert speakers | Industry leading exhibitors | Network with peers

## OUR NEW AND IMPROVED SIGN IN AND VISITOR MANAGEMENT SCREENS



NEW SLEEK LOOK AND FEEL



INTEGRATED SCANNERS



ULTRA THIN 10MM DISPLAY

INCREASED CAPACITY

We're passionate about the technology we create and how this impacts our customers, which is why we've given our screens a makeover! Take a look at our new features below.



### WINDOWS 11

Our new screens run on Windows 11 and have an increased hard drive capacity.



### INTEGRATED SCANNERS

Our new integrated scanners give the system a sleeker, more streamlined look and feel.



### ENHANCED LIGHTING

Our custom-designed screens now feature enhanced lighting to improve imagery of visitors and contractors.



### DUAL CAMERA

This addition ensures that all users can easily access the system's features, significantly improving user experience.

FREE UPGRADE TO THE CLOUD WITH EVERY GEN 6 SCREEN PURCHASE

## Learn, Share, Enjoy



### Welcome to ICT for Education Newcastle.

Those tasked with providing the nation's children with a Computing / Computer Science education, to prepare them for the demands of the digital world, may be forgiven for seeing themselves on a par with Sisyphus. In Greek mythology, Sisyphus pushes a boulder up a hill as a punishment by the gods.

Each time he nears the top, the boulder rolls back down forcing him to repeat the task for eternity. In the face of constantly moving goalposts (curriculum content and demands), competition for budget, the impossibility of keeping pace with technological development, the demands of industry, not to mention the significant shortage of Computing teachers - how are schools supposed to fulfil the demands of those allegedly responsible for education policy and direction?

ICT for Education looks to bring the Computer Science community together. Our events and our newsletter Sapiientia are all about supporting Computing teachers, school leaders, and IT professionals in education, giving you the motivation and inspiration to tackle your Sisyphean task with enthusiasm, innovation, resourcefulness and, ultimately, satisfaction.

You are not alone. Our expert keynote speakers are passionate and practical in their support for Computer Science. They will cover a wide range of issues pertinent to your work and will be happy to engage with you throughout the conference. Our specialist suppliers' exhibition is full of products and services that aim to help you make a difference in your school. See products put to the test and spend time with knowledgeable and consultative vendors.

Thank you for taking the time to join us today. We hope you enjoy the conference and the opportunity to network with peers and colleagues from across the region. If you wish to speak at an ICT for Education Conference or contribute an article to our newsletter, please contact Ian at [il@ictforeducation.co.uk](mailto:il@ictforeducation.co.uk) or speak to our team at the conference.



Owner of ICT for Education



### ICT FOR EDUCATION EVENT TEAM

Ian Loosemore  
Louise Johnson

### OUR THANKS TO



[www.waggleevents.org](http://www.waggleevents.org)



[www.screenfocus.co.uk](http://www.screenfocus.co.uk)



[www.pcconsultants.co.uk](http://www.pcconsultants.co.uk)

**NOSY**

[www.nosy.agency](http://www.nosy.agency)







## EVENT

# Schedule

**07:30 - 08:30** | Registration and Exhibition Opens, Networking over coffee and pastries.

**08:30 – 08:40:** | Welcome from the Conference Chairman – Martin Bailey. Computing Subject Leader at Ellington Primary School, Lecturer in Primary Computing at Sunderland University. Director of Animate 2 Educate.

**08:40 – 09:00** | *Keynote 1:* “How to update the curriculum and find support; The NCCE Computing Quality Mark” From Sarah Zaman - CAS Primary Specialist, NCCE Primary Computing Specialist.

**09:00 – 09:40** | Session 2: *ICT Reviews Live!*

An independent product review session that will put products to the test and give you real insight into their capabilities. Watch the reviews, comment on product content, consider underlying technologies, discuss ease of use and share your opinions on how you would like suppliers to develop products and services to meet the needs of teachers and schools.

**09:40 – 10:25** | Coffee break and visit the Exhibition.

**10:25 – 10:45** | *Keynote 2:* “The Digital Dilemma: the importance of media literacy” From Allen Tsui – Computer Science and Computing Subject Lead, Willow Brook Primary School Academy, London.

**10:45 – 11:00** | “The PSTN sunset: the rise of full fibre” An overview of the PSTN switch off and navigating your path to All-IP by Jonathan Gibney, Head of Schools & Desk, Wavenet Education.

**11:00 – 11:30** | Coffee break and visit the Exhibition.

**11:30 – 11:50** | *Keynote 3:* “Our Coding Journey” From Martin Bailey and the pupils of Ellington Primary School (Northumberland)

**11:50 – 12:10** | *Keynote 4:* “An update on AI in education” From Prof. Miles Berry – Professor of Computing at the University of Roehampton.

**12:10 – 12:30** | *Keynote 5:* “A new year, a new you? Changes in curriculum, and what should we be prioritising” From Dr Steve Bunce - Robotics Partnerships Teacher and STEM Ambassador at Royal Grammar School Newcastle.

**12:35** | Closing comments from Chair.

*Please note that session timings, speakers, and speaker order subject to alteration. Exhibitors are welcome to attend any conference sessions.*

# Conference Chairman



## MARTIN BAILEY

Computing subject leader and Director at Animate 2 Educate Ltd

Martin Bailey is an esteemed educator with 25 years experience in primary school teaching and leadership roles across the UK. Currently, Martin serves as a part-time teacher and Computer Subject Leader at Ellington Primary School in Northumberland and Birchwood Primary School in Northumberland and Birchwood Primary School in Tamworth.

In these positions, he passionately delivers the Computing curriculum to students from Early Years Foundation Stage to Year 6 while spearheading digital enrichment activities and shaping the schools' digital strategies. Beyond his classroom commitments, Martin is the driving force behind Animate 2 Educate Ltd. Martin's influence transcends the

**Contact Martin:** [martinbailey@animate2educate.co.uk](mailto:martinbailey@animate2educate.co.uk)

## Speakers



## PROF. MILES BERRY

Professor of Computing Education,  
University of Roehampton

Miles is professor of computing education at the University of Roehampton, where he leads the university's computing PGCE course. He is a former teacher and head teacher. He chairs the NCCE academic board and the BCS's England computing education committee and serves on the board of Computing At School. **Contact Prof Miles Berry:** [milesberry.net](http://milesberry.net)



## SARAH ZAMAN

National Centre of Computing Education

Sarah is a primary school teacher with over two decades of experience as ICT and Computing lead. She offers crucial guidance to North East teachers on primary computing CPD courses and providing bespoke support on curriculums. She serves as the CyberFirst Schools Engagement Lead in the North East. She is the Primary Computing Lead at the Energy Central Learning Hub in Blyth.

**Contact Sarah:** [sarah.zaman@computingat.org.uk](mailto:sarah.zaman@computingat.org.uk)

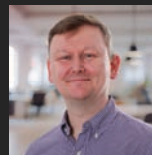


## ALLEN TSUI

Computer Science and Computing Subject  
Lead, Willow Brook Primary School  
Academy, London.

Allen Tsui is subject specialist for Computing at Willow Brook Primary School Academy in East London. Willow Brook is part of the Griffin Schools Trust of Primary and Secondary schools in London, Kent and the Midlands.

**Contact Allen:** [@TsuiAllen \(X/Twitter\)](https://twitter.com/TsuiAllen)



## DR STEVE BUNCE

Robotics Partnerships at Royal Grammar School  
Newcastle. Sponsored by British Engines.

Steve is an experienced educator and author with roles ranging from Head of Computing to Senior Leadership. An Apple Distinguished Educator and Google Innovator, he partners with North East schools to enhance STEM education and prepare for national robotics competitions.

**Contact Steve:** [s.bunce@rgs.newcastle.sch.uk](mailto:s.bunce@rgs.newcastle.sch.uk)



## JONATHAN GIBNEY

Head of Schools & Desk,  
Wavenet Education

I've worked in the technology sector for nearly a decade and currently lead the Schools team at Wavenet Education. Our mission is to empower schools to leverage technology in delivering exceptional learning experiences. Wavenet Education draws on the extensive resources, expertise, and innovation of the wider Wavenet Group, enabling us to provide market-leading solutions in a rapidly evolving digital landscape. From Communications and Connectivity to Cybersecurity and IT Support, Wavenet is here to help schools thrive through technology.

# Floor Plan



## Stand Directory

- |  |                            |
|--|----------------------------|
| 1   InVentry                             | 17   KRCS                  |
| 2   Teachmate                            | 18   VEX Robotics          |
| 3   2Simple                              | 19   Edtech.Direct         |
| 4   Simply AVS                           | 20   NAACE                 |
| 5   TTS Group Ltd                        | 21   Allen Tsui            |
| 6   Pearson                              | 23   Animate 2 Educate     |
| 7   RUCKUS Networks                      | 24   ASUS                  |
| 8   Acer                                 | 25   Ergotron              |
| 9   NetSupport                           | 26   NEROCU                |
| 10   ICT Direct                          | 27   MCC Digital           |
| 11   Wavenet Education                   | 28   CTOUCH UK LTD         |
| 12   BCS, The Chartered Institute for IT | 29   Wacebo UK Ltd         |
| 13   Getech                              | 30   Crusader AV           |
| 14   Omada by TP-Link                    | 31   Elementary Technology |
| 15   Durham CC- IT Services              |                            |
| 16   Raspberry Pi Foundation             |                            |

edtech.direct is dedicated to enhancing teaching and learning through cutting-edge educational technology. We offer a wide range of products, including classroom tools, assistive technologies, and creative software designed to meet the diverse needs of modern classrooms. By partnering with us, teachers can access top-tier educational resources that make learning more engaging and efficient. Whether you need interactive whiteboards, educational software, or assistive technology, edtech.direct provides tailored solutions to help you effectively integrate technology into your teaching.





# Exhibitors



## InVentry

### STAND 1

InVentry is the market leader for staff, visitor, and pupil management; trusted by over 10,000 schools. Their system transforms the efficiency of entry into your school and provides secure digital data on every entry or exit.

Designed to improve the safeguarding of pupils, through InVentry, you can keep an accurate log of who is on your site at any one time, giving you maximum traceability for staff, contractors and visitors.

From late pupil arrivals to DBS information, InVentry seamlessly integrates with leading MIS providers, to ensure that your sign in information is always up to date.

Other features include:


- Contractor Management.
- Printed passes for late pupils.
- Fire and Trip Management.
- Access Invitations for visitors.
- Multi-site tracking.

As well as offering this, InVentry also provides an asset management software; Audit & Compliance. This solution delivers fast and cost-effective solutions for tracking assets in your school - providing a clear audit trail of usage to enable you to make informed decisions on your software and hardware investments.

**Get in touch to find out more:**

 [info@inventry.co.uk](mailto:info@inventry.co.uk)

 [www.InVentry.co.uk](http://www.InVentry.co.uk)

 0113 322 9253



## Teachmate

### STAND 2

Teachmate is the UK's leading AI assistant for teachers and school leaders comprising over 130 AI-powered tools created to reduce workload and enhance learning. From lesson planning and resource creation, to administrative and leadership tasks, Teachmate's suite of innovative tools save teachers and school leaders on average over 10+ hours every week.

Trusted by over 300,000 users worldwide, our easy to use yet powerful online platform enables all teachers to leverage the transformative power of AI, whilst retaining their professional expertise and oversight - we're assisting teachers with AI, not replacing them.

Innovative features, such as our 'Tool Linking' and 'Refinement Bar', along with our seamless integrations with productivity tools, offers a complete solution for educators looking to embrace AI to enhance their planning, resource creation and wider school duties.

Teachmate is fully GDPR compliant with no user data being used to train AI models, making it the trusted school-wide AI platform for individuals, schools, colleges and MATs. We're trusted AI, built for education.



## 2Simple

### STAND 3

2Simple has been making powerful and creative educational software for learners and schools for over 25 years.

We are committed to providing creative, inclusive, and inspiring software to encourage children to love learning and prepare them for later life.

Today our software and resources are used by learners in over 11,000 schools, in more than 70 countries.

2Simple can support you and your learners with a variety of resources and tools:

**Purple Mash:** A whole curricular resource that supports teachers with challenging subject areas or topics, whilst encouraging pupils to love learning.

**Serial Mash:** A vast online library of fiction and non-fiction books with activities and resources to encourage reading.

**Evidence Me:** The award-winning observation and assessment app that makes record-keeping effortless and secure.

**Striver:** Full PE scheme of work and dedicated wellbeing units. Every teacher in your school will have the confidence to deliver engaging PE lessons that boost primary pupils long-term physical and mental wellbeing.

**Python in Pieces:** An interactive coding environment designed to build student and teacher confidence with the text-based language of Python.

**Know My School:** Transform your school's self-evaluation and improvement planning, while ensuring a healthy work-life balance.

**Get in touch to find out more:**

 [www.2simple.com](http://www.2simple.com)





## Simply AVS

### STAND 4

Simply AVS have been supplying audio-visual solutions since 2001.

Our team have the knowledge and experience to help customers design, select and integrate technology solutions and equipment to best meet their needs and we strive to deliver a high-quality service which is informed by the latest technology.

We offer a full range of service and support, whether you are looking for a large audiovisual installation, the supply and installation of an interactive display or to purchase a replacement lamp for a single projector.

#### **Get in touch to find out more:**



[www.simplyavs.co.uk](http://www.simplyavs.co.uk)



0044 1635 597 044



## TTS Group Ltd

### STAND 5

Our award-winning, ever-expanding family of educational floor robots are designed to inspire creative learning and early programming.

From our Early Years Glow and Go Bot to our KS2 Oti-Bot, we have the programming journey covered.

In addition to our much-loved Bee-Bot and our newest addition Loti-Bot, we have many other accessories to help introduce pupils to technology, algorithms, logical reasoning and more!

At TTS we collaborate with teachers, practitioners and educational experts from all over the world to develop innovative, award-winning resources that inspire children to learn.

From Early Years resources for the youngest learners, to everything you need to deliver an engaging curriculum our extensive range has it all.

All our resources are tried and tested, and our dedicated teams are always developing exciting new additions.

#### **Get in touch to find out more:**

Claire Tyler - ICT Category Manager.



[www.tts-group.co.uk](http://www.tts-group.co.uk)



[ctyler@rm.com](mailto:ctyler@rm.com)



## Pearson

### STAND 6

Welcome to Pearson, the world's leading learning company. We have a simple mission: to help people make more of their lives through learning.

Whether it's at home, in the classroom or in the workplace, learning is the key to improving our life chances. To this end, Pearson in the UK brings together leading names in education to provide a blend of content, curricula, assessment, training and technology to make learning more engaging and effective.

We are the UK's largest awarding body. We offer academic and vocational qualifications that are globally recognised and benchmarked, with educational excellence rooted in names like Edexcel and BTEC.

By bringing together international assessment and education experts, Pearson is developing World Class Qualifications that empower learners to develop important skills to make progress in their lives through learning. Setting a new gold standard in education, with unrivalled support for teachers and students every step of the way, Pearson is committed to education and achieving long-term learner outcomes.

Time for a change? Our Pearson Edexcel GCSE Computer Science qualification reflects the fast-changing world of Computer Science with its innovative onscreen practical assessment. What's more, over 20,000 students have taken our onscreen assessment paper since 2022.

#### **Get in touch to find out more:**



[TeachingComputerScience@pearson.com](mailto:TeachingComputerScience@pearson.com)



## RUCKUS Networks

### STAND 7

RUCKUS Networks, a CommScope company, delivers purpose-driven network infrastructure that meets the evolving demands of today's digital world. Backed by CommScope's expertise in broadband, enterprise, and wireless technologies, RUCKUS provides high-performance, secure, and scalable solutions where "good enough" connectivity simply won't do.


In the education sector, seamless connectivity is the foundation for future-ready schools. RUCKUS ensures "anywhere, anytime, on any device" access, empowering students and educators with uninterrupted learning experiences. With cutting-edge technology like Wi-Fi 7, our solutions support modern tools such as esports, virtual reality, and interactive learning.

RUCKUS solutions empower schools by providing:

- **Advanced Networking Infrastructure:** Best-in class wireless access points and switching to provide a converged networks for all the connected devices needs.
- **AI-Driven Management and Operations:** Automates tasks, freeing IT teams to focus on broader initiatives that enhance student success.
- **Advanced Security:** Enforce network security policies and integrate health and safety systems like CCTV surveillance, emergency communications, and environmental sensors.

By enabling digital transformation, fostering collaboration, and enhancing learning environments, RUCKUS helps schools prepare students for success in an ever-evolving technological landscape.

#### Get in touch to find out more:

 [steve.johnson@commscope.com](mailto:steve.johnson@commscope.com)

[SEE OUR PRODUCT REVIEW LIVE](#)



## Acer

### STAND 8

#### WHY ACER FOR EDUCATION

Our mission is to bring next-generation technologies to schools and universities, enabling educators to create learning environments where students and teachers can connect, collaborate, and engage from anywhere.

#### Get in touch to find out more:

 [sales.uk@acer.com](mailto:sales.uk@acer.com)



## NetSupport

### STAND 9

With 22 million users worldwide, NetSupport is a leading producer of education software solutions, providing schools with all the essentials for successful IT management, safeguarding and technology-enhanced teaching.

For teachers, NetSupport has two solutions to choose from. Our cloud-based solution, classroom.cloud provides the essential tools for flexible instruction in any setting. Combined with a safeguarding toolkit to provide a safe learning environment at all times, and IT management features to help schools centrally manage and maximise their edtech, classroom.cloud is a 3-in-1 award-winning solution.

Meanwhile, NetSupport School is the market-leading and most feature-rich on-premise classroom instruction and monitoring solution, with a wealth of monitoring, control, collaboration and assessment features.

For technicians, NetSupport DNA provides network and IT management features to effectively track, monitor and manage IT assets and endpoints across a school or Trust – all from one central point. Meanwhile, its built-in online safety toolkit ensures schools can meet their eSafety requirements with proactive and reactive tools.

Lastly, NetSupport Notify helps schools ensure all staff/students are informed with one-way messages that can't be ignored – perfect in supporting risk assessments, lockdowns, and boosting school communication.

#### Get in touch to find out more:

 [sales@netsupportsoftware.co.uk](mailto:sales@netsupportsoftware.co.uk)

 [www.netsupportsoftware.com](http://www.netsupportsoftware.com)

@NetSupportGroup



## ICT Direct

### STAND 10

ICT Direct have been the nation's favourite supplier of quality refurbished computers since 1997.

By far the greenest option for schools, our zero-landfill recycling operation provides schools and colleges across the country with high quality refurbished PCs, laptops, servers and more, reducing the huge environmental costs associated with new computers.

We refurbish only the best quality brands such as HP, Dell and Lenovo ensuring that our offering is as reliable as possible.

As an ICT Direct customer, you'll have access to powerful, low-cost Windows 11 certified computers backed by superb next-day warranties for your peace of mind. You'll be able to make your purchase knowing that our team of dedicated account managers have curated these products to suit your exact requirements whilst providing a tangible environmental benefit.

We specialise in sourcing large quantities of identical machines. This means we can guarantee the very best price on bulk orders where ALL the devices will have identical make, model and specification.

Get in touch with us for special pricing if you have a bulk requirement. Our friendly sales team are always ready to help, so just get in touch to see what we can do for you today.

#### Get in touch to find out more:

-  [sales@ict-direct.co.uk](mailto:sales@ict-direct.co.uk)
-  [www.ict-direct.co.uk](http://www.ict-direct.co.uk)
-  01254 820980



## Wavenet Education



### STAND 11

With over 30 years' experience providing 'designed-for-schools' technology that is simple to use, easy to implement, and budget-friendly, our award winning range of products and services are being utilised by education establishments across the UK to enable their digital learning visions.

Our tailored solutions enable education leaders to tackle every aspect of their ICT environment and transition smoothly to new digital platforms and ensure everything works efficiently at all times. We offer access to specialists in every field – including networking, software, security, safeguarding and more.

- Over 4,000 schools nationwide
- ISBL Approved Partner
- Cyber Essentials Plus
- Google Cloud Partner
- Microsoft Solutions Partner
- Crown Commercial Service Supplier

#### Get in touch to find out more:

-  [enquiries@wavenet.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@wavenet.co.uk)
-  0333 234 0011



## BCS - The Chartered Institute for IT

### STAND 12

BCS, the Chartered Institute for IT, is an awarding organisation that specialises in digital education.

We're on a mission to build a safe and bright digital future for everyone in society, working with key partners to improve IT education and raise professional industry standards. It's something we've been committed to since 1957.

While many young people can use mobile phones or find their way around an iPad, the true meaning of digital literacy goes far deeper.

Help your students become safe, productive and creative users of IT - in the classroom, at home and in preparation for the workplace through teaching one of our digital literacy or computing qualifications in your school.

Aimed at individuals at all levels our qualifications cover all areas of IT, including IT fundamentals, staying safe online, using Microsoft applications effectively to boost productivity, robotics, and coding.

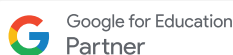
Digital is everywhere and constantly evolving. Being in the teaching profession, it's important that you stay up to date. Ensure you've got the digital skills you need in your role with on-line, bitesize e-learning modules from BCS, The Chartered Institute for IT.

With a wide range of topics from AI and Green IT to Developing an Agile Mindset and Digital Leadership, we've got it covered. Come take a look.

#### Get in touch to find out more:

-  [bcs.org/CPD](https://www.bcs.org/CPD)





## Getech

### STAND 13

As Google's leading Premier Partner in the UK and Lenovo's largest Education Partner in Europe, Getech has been a trusted technology partner for schools, colleges and universities across the UK and Ireland for over 30 years.


A deep understanding of our product portfolio coupled with a consultative approach to problem-solving for our customers enables us to deliver technology that works as intended, on-budget and beyond expectations.

For schools and colleges that don't have teams of in-house IT experts on call, we offer a catalogue of partner services from pre-shipment configuration and asset tagging of devices to CPD training for educators and administrators, change management, security audits, cloud migrations and more. Beyond IT procurement and deployment support, we also help schools to address the STEM skills shortage by providing fun and engaging, hands-on learning activities aligned to the national curriculum with LEGO Education.


By dispelling the misconceptions that Science is boring and Maths is hard while giving the tools for teachers to implement coding into their classroom projects as early as Key Stage 2, we aim to give all young minds access to the platforms that will prepare them for any career in the 21st Century workforce.

Visit our stand for a quick chat about your next technology challenge and come away with a better understanding of how we can make IT easy for you.

#### Get in touch to find out more:

 [schools@getech.co.uk](mailto:schools@getech.co.uk)

 [www.getech.co.uk/schools](http://www.getech.co.uk/schools)

 01473 240470

[SEE OUR PRODUCT REVIEW LIVE](#)



## Omada by TP-Link

### STAND 14

Omada by TP-Link delivers a comprehensive networking solution designed specifically to enhance educational technology ecosystems.

Our complete offering enables your Ed-tech devices to perform optimally, helping you deliver better learning outcomes for students and teachers. Regardless of your institution's networking needs, Omada provides tailored solutions that meet all scenarios.

Whether you manage a small campus network or a large multi-site infrastructure, require simple deployment or complex management capabilities, Omada's versatile platform rises to the challenge.

Our education-focused solutions not only meet but exceed the current Department for Education guidance, ensuring your institution stays ahead of technical requirements while maximising your technology investment.

Contact us below to learn more about the solution.

#### Get in touch to find out more:

 [ben.bayly@tp-link.com](mailto:ben.bayly@tp-link.com)



## Durham CC- IT Services

### STAND 15

Durham County Council IT Services support schools to harness education technology through a wide range of technical and support services, with children and learning at the heart of it all.

With over 30 years' experience in an ever-changing market, we provide a high level of customer care demonstrating a flexible, proactive, and responsive culture and attitude.

Our dedicated teams support a range of Service Level Agreements covering numerous services including MIS support, hardware and systems repairs, cloud services, broadband and anti-virus Services.

All our services are managed and maintained by our experienced and qualified teams who design, install and support solutions, irrespective of scale, to meet the varying needs of our customers.

We do not just provide services to schools, we also support blue light services, local authorities, public sector organisations, start-up businesses, community, and voluntary organisations across the North East. Our customers get to enjoy the benefits we offer including complimentary invitations to seminars and specialised training plus dedicated account management.

#### Get in touch to find out more:

 [ICTservices@durham.gov.uk](mailto:ICTservices@durham.gov.uk)

 03000 261100



## The classroom of the future starts with RUCKUS

RUCKUS ensures “anywhere, anytime, on any device” access, empowering students and educators with uninterrupted learning experiences. With cutting-edge technology like Wi-Fi® 7, our solutions support modern tools such as esports, virtual reality, and interactive learning.

### RUCKUS solutions empower schools by providing:

1

#### **Advanced networking infrastructure:**

Best-in-class wireless access points and switching to provide a converged network for all the connected devices’ needs.

2

#### **AI-driven management and operations:**

Automates tasks, freeing IT teams to focus on broader initiatives that enhance student success.

3

#### **Advanced security:**

Enforce network security policies and integrate health and safety systems like CCTV surveillance, emergency communications, and environmental sensors.



### Empower your school with next-gen Wi-Fi

To learn more about how RUCKUS can transform your school’s connectivity and educational experience, contact us today and explore the possibilities of creating a truly connected school environment.





**Raspberry Pi  
Foundation**

## Raspberry Pi Foundation

### STAND 16

The Raspberry Pi Foundation's mission is to help young people realise their full potential through the power of digital technologies and computing.

We do this by creating free computer science resources and programmes like Ada Computer Science, Code Club, and more.

Ada Computer Science is our free learning platform, developed in partnership with the University of Cambridge. It's designed to give GCSE and A level teachers the resources and mentorship to help their students learn, study, or revise computer science. All our resources are mapped against GCSE and A level curriculums.

Code Club is a global community of free coding clubs for 9 to 13-year-olds. Our programme offers young people fun step-by-step instructions for creating games, animations, and websites with code. You can start your own club with ease, in a school, library, or even in a local business.

Running a club is a great way to help young people build their skills and share their creations in a fun and creative environment. Find out more about starting your own club.

Whether you're looking for structured curriculums, school-wide challenges, lesson plans, CPD opportunities, or fun after-school activities, you'll find something that can help your students develop their computing skills and knowledge.

Visit [raspberrypi.org](http://raspberrypi.org) to explore our full range of resources.

**kracs**



Authorised  
Education Specialist

## KRCS

### STAND 17

KRCS are proud to be an Apple Authorised Education Specialist, an Apple Authorised Service Provider and an Apple Premium Reseller, as well as being a Jamf Gold Reseller.

We have a wealth of experience, supporting education institutions for over 40 years. Whether you are a large multi academy trust or a small village school, our team of experts are here to help you no matter how big or small your project is.

Unlocking the genius in every learner is fundamental to using Apple in education and KRCS are here to support your journey.

Education is in our DNA and we have a team that includes former school teachers and technicians, active school governors & parents. We believe that Mac and iPad can improve outcomes by transforming teaching and learning in UK classrooms and provide equitable access.

KRCS currently manage over 12,000 Apple devices in schools and colleges across the UK.

#### Get in touch to find out more:



[edsales@kracs.co.uk](mailto:edsales@kracs.co.uk)



0115 985 1797



## VEX Robotics

### STAND 18

VEX Robotics is educational robotics for everyone.

The VEX product continuum spans all levels of education with solutions tailored to EYFS and KS1 right through to university level.

Our products can be used both in the classroom and as part of extracurricular robotics competitions and our free virtual robotics coding tools mean that you can stretch your budget further when teaching with VEX.

The free STEM Labs curriculum and activities give teachers everything they need to deliver a rich STEM curriculum including presentations, hand-outs, lesson guides and more.

No previous STEM experience is required, and the resources are linked to the National Curriculum Programmes of Study for Computing, Science, Design Technology and Maths.

Free online teacher certification, training webinars and face-to-face training ensure your staff have the knowledge they need to deliver a high-quality STEM curriculum.

#### Get in touch to find out more:



[chris\\_calver@vexrobotics.com](mailto:chris_calver@vexrobotics.com)



[www.vexrobotics.com](http://www.vexrobotics.com)





## EdTech.Direct

### STAND 19

Edtech.Direct is the new educational reseller in town, we supply technology to enhance teaching & learning.

With over 30 years combined experience of delivering solutions to schools, the Edtech.Direct team look forward to not only supplying but sourcing the appropriate Edtech solutions for your pupils.

We will be delivering you access to a wide range of ed tech products, teaching aids and accessories all designed to enhance lesson delivery, pupil engagement and ultimately, learning outcomes across the primary and secondary age ranges.

Edtech.Direct is also able to source products from across the globe due to our relationships with major distributors and product agents.

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## NAACE

### STAND 20

The National Association for Education Technology NAACE is a community of teachers, school leaders, advisors, consultants, and commercial partners working across all areas of UK education who share a vision for the developing role of technology in education.

As a professional association, we support schools to embed the use of technology by collating the latest research in our Advancing Education Journal, gathering evidence of good practice from schools that have been awarded NaaceMark, and providing access to our EdTech Review Framework to support schools in their EdTech journey.

We undertake independent research on behalf of our members into the state of education technology across the sector. These help us identify where we are now with EdTech in the UK, the challenges for schools, and the approaches that can be taken to address those challenges.

#### **Who is NAACE?**

NAACE members and sponsoring partners work in both public and private sectors. They represent a range of professions in the education sphere including teachers, school leaders, consultants, software developers, technicians, university lecturers, student teachers, company executives, national partners and colleagues from commerce and industry.

Our members and partners share a passion for embedding the effective use of technology into teaching, learning and school management.

If you share this passion and are looking to collaborate with like-minded professionals, join NAACE to become a part of our community.

#### **Get in touch to find out more:**

 [membership@naace.org.uk](mailto:membership@naace.org.uk)

## Allen Tsui

### STAND 21

Allen has been the Curriculum Lead for Computing since September 2020 at an amazing Primary school in East London where he specialises in teaching Computing to children as young as aged 3 (Nursery and Early Years) to aged 11 (Year 6).

Since September 2023 Allen has also been a part-time Postgraduate student on the MA in STEM Education at King's College London as a recipient of one of the University's STEM Education Teacher Scholarships. Shortlisted for the Primary Curriculum Lead of the Year TES Awards 2024, Allen has also been supporting the GCSE and A-Level Computer Science students at the Secondary schools within the Multi-Academy Trust his school is part of.

Allen's former students achieved the grades they required to study Computer Science at their preferred choices of University.

# Importance of Computing in the Curriculum

*By Amy Cartwright, Head of Computing and Head of Digital Innovation and Learning at Istock Place School.*

There are probably few people who will argue against the need for Computing to be taught in secondary schools. We have already had that discussion, we have been there, done that and got the t-shirt. We understand that the future workplace will require people to be good with computers.

We know that there will be many jobs available for highly skilled technologists. And we know that rapid advancements in industry robotics are already reducing the need for human labour.

All of this is old news. Clearly, young people need to be confident and skilled when using technology. So, the simplest conclusion that we can arrive at is that we need to give more importance to Computing in education. Frustratingly, it doesn't seem to be that simple.

In most secondary schools, Computing is a specialist subject. Learners are given a small taste and then required to make a choice as to whether they would like to continue to study it. Already this is problematic. Packed timetables, combined with the breadth of the subject, mean that there isn't time for teachers to provide a comprehensive and engaging overview before the selection process begins.

Because of these time constraints, teachers are forced into squeezing large and complex concepts into five-week modules. We certainly wouldn't expect a pupil to be able to write in French after five, one-hour lessons – and it's definitely not enough time to teach a pupil how to code! Inevitably, learners struggle to grasp the basics and start to think of it as a 'difficult' subject, decreasing the likelihood of them wanting to continue.

## Life in the real world

I don't envy the team responsible for producing a school's timetable. It's easy to demand more time, justifying your need over all the other subjects is the hard part. I'm not going to wage war against other subjects, as it's not productive.

There is little point going to battle to try and prove which is the superior subject when we already know that a wide and varied education is vitally important. However, it is equally as important that we ensure that the varied curriculum pupils receive is preparing them for life in the real world.



'But my child doesn't want to be a Computer Scientist'. Well, this is a fair point. Admittedly, I am one of those people who thinks that coding should be a skill that is given as much importance as reading and basic maths. But that's because I am biased. The reality is that Computing is more than coding. This is something that is frequently misunderstood by parents, young people and sometimes even schools. Coding isn't the crux of this argument. In Key Stage three, Computing lessons typically teach skills across IT, Digital Media, Digital Literacy and Computer Science.

We are already in world where poor digital literacy is a huge hinderance in the job market. In some schools, if Computing is not picked as an option, learners will have a very limited access to computers throughout the rest of their secondary education. Not only will this have an impact on their readiness for the workplace, but it also raises serious concerns around the perpetuation of a digital divide.

## The best employees

With the emergence of tools like ChatGPT, future employers will look for candidates who can understand how to make best use of artificial intelligence to enhance their own abilities.

In addition to having relevant knowledge, the best employees will be able to demonstrate an aptitude for independent and original thought. When you have a





computer program that can regurgitate facts, write in prose, and perform complex calculations you are going to need people who understand how it is doing this. That doesn't mean just coders, but people who understand the success rate, how to get meaningful responses and the potential risks of using such technology. Young people who do not have an adequate education in Computing will be at a significant disadvantage as these tools will remain a somewhat impenetrable 'black box'.

'But I am very concerned about increased screen time'. I firmly believe that the screen time argument centres entirely around whether the screen time is purposeful. Surely, having learners increase their screen time within an educational setting is not really the issue. I would even go as far as to say that teaching young people how to interact with devices in a more meaningful way could be a big step towards tackling the mindless scrolling habits parents are rightfully concerned about.

#### A shift in mindset

I know that this is a familiar conversation and that I have barely scratched the surface. I also know that I am likely preaching to the converted, but it is something that we must keep talking about.

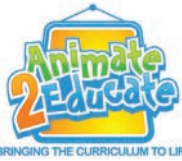
We need to keep asking ourselves why Computing is still considered a special skill and not an essential one? Perhaps it is time for us to start to consider Computing among the core subjects in the curriculum?

The fact is that if we genuinely do want all learners to be adequately prepared for the future workforce there will need to be a national shift in mindset towards computing education. I don't think I have the power or the experience to determine what that shift would look like, but it is definitely a conversation I would like to be a part of.

First published in Sapientia Summer 2023







## Animate 2 Educate

### STAND 23

Animate 2 Educate brings the curriculum to life through the delivery of pupil workshops and staff training sessions. Using the latest technology, software and apps they can transform any curriculum topic and provide a memorable learning experience for your pupils.

All sessions are bespoke and can be delivered to pupils from EYFS - Year 6.

Whether you are looking for animation, green screen, augmented or virtual reality Animate 2 Educate can provide the session for you. Experts in all areas of Primary Computing, Animate 2 Educate can also deliver your staff training and INSET sessions.

Many schools have also benefitted from working with Animate 2 Educate to create a bespoke Primary Computing curriculum for their school.

#### **Get in touch to find out more:**

✉ [info@animate2educate.co.uk](mailto:info@animate2educate.co.uk)

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## ASUS

### STAND 24

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Today's education technology must adapt to teaching that occurs onsite, remotely or as part of a hybrid approach.

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We're a trusted and reliable learning partner, and a powerful ally.

In short, ASUS enables educators, students and school partners to upgrade to incredible teaching and learning possibilities by providing comprehensive student-centred solutions - ready to empower academic success.

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## Ergotron

### STAND 25

Ergotron uses movement to create active learning environments with mobile sit-stand desks, charging carts, cabinets and digital signage mounts.

Our adjustable furniture and technology solutions allow students, teachers and colleagues to break free from constraints that hinder creativity and success, so they can thrive as they learn and work.

These active environments drive collaboration, while providing easy access to applications and real-time information for the entire school that supports 21st century learning.

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It's all about protecting your investment and protecting you.



## NEROCU

### STAND 26

The North East Regional Organised Crime Unit (NEROCU) was established in October 2013 and operates across three police force areas - Northumbria, Cleveland and Durham and regularly work with our North East and national partners to tackle Serious and Organised Crime.

One of the specialist teams that work within NEROCU are the North East Regional Cyber Crime Unit who work all year round to provide free specialist cyber security advice and guidance to businesses, organisations and individuals.

#### Cyber Protect

Cyber Protect Officers support businesses and organisations in their cyber security journey, ensuring cyber security remains at the top of the agenda to help reduce the chances of becoming a victim of a cyber attack.

More information on the free services can be found in our downloadable brochure via our website.

#### Cyber Choices

Cyber Choices Officers deliver a national initiative called Cyber Choices which focuses on preventing young people from becoming involved in cyber crime. Their aim is to educate young people who have an interest in technology to use their skills safely and legally while also raising awareness of the consequences of becoming involved in cyber crime.

More information on the Cyber Choices initiative can be found on our website.

**Get in touch to find out more:**

 [www.nerccu.police.uk](http://www.nerccu.police.uk)



## MCC Digital, Apple Authorised Education Specialist

### STAND 27

For over 40 years, MCC Digital have been working with schools, colleges, and universities to make their vision a reality by supporting institutions with the right technology and support.

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As Apple Authorised Education Specialists, MCC Digital are able to offer high quality products, services and support. The team work with a variety of different schools, Multi-Academy Trusts and educational institutions. No matter what your goals, MCC Digital are here to help.

**Get in touch to find out more:**

 [education@mccdigital.com](mailto:education@mccdigital.com)

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## CTOUCH UK LTD

### STAND 28

Hi, we are CTOUCH, part of i3-Technologies, is an innovative and distinctive touchscreen brand, specialised in providing interactive touch solutions for education and businesses. CTOUCH believes in sustainable engagement: empowering learners, collaborators, thinkers, and doers to create meaningful interactive experiences. Supporting them to reach their full potential, now and in the future. Our mission is to energise meetings and lessons with interactive, userfriendly tools. Every day, we enable people to safely connect, collaborate and learn together. We dare to say that we are the most sustainable touchscreen brand in the world.

**Get in touch to find out more:**

 0203 868 2240

 [enquiries@ctouch.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@ctouch.co.uk)



## Wacebo UK Ltd

### STAND 29

Established in 2013, we are leaders in the Italian EdTech market, with headquarters in Rome, Milan, Bari, London and New York. We specialize in crafting interactive solutions tailored for both educational and commercial landscapes, and in creating innovative learning environments.

We are a young, dynamic, and versatile team, driven by passion and determination. Our commitment to teamwork, sharing, transparency, and constant dialogue allows us to quickly adapt to changes and remain innovative and competitive in the market. We were the first Italian manufacturer to secure the esteemed Google EDLA (Enterprise Device License Agreement) license for our interactive displays DabliuTouch. This achievement underscores our pledge to deliver products characterized by security, longevity, upgradability, and user-friendliness.

"Think Digital" is at the heart of our mission: revolutionizing education and work with modern, engaging, and interactive experiences. We design technological environments where exploring, communicating, and learning digitally becomes simple and natural. For us, the future of education is digital, connected, and innovative. That's why we aim to help create a more dynamic and seamless learning environment by integrating our solutions with the technologies teachers and students use every day, making the educational experience smoother, more interactive, and engaging.

#### Get in touch to find out more:

 [info@wacebo.co.uk](mailto:info@wacebo.co.uk)



## Crusader AV

### STAND 30

Crusader AV specialises in delivering top-quality audio-visual solutions for schools, colleges, and universities across the UK and Ireland. We design, supply, and install a wide range of AV projects tailored to your educational needs.

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#### Get in touch to find out more:

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## Elementary Technology

### STAND 31

We are a leading independent supplier of technology into education, here to help your school and trust with planning, choosing, buying and using technology for teaching, learning within your school community.

Technology can be a challenge for schools and trusts - to understand what's available and what would work best for you.


To help, you're always welcome to our Experience Centre, in person or live online, which is full of the latest technology to experience for yourself, as well as for training workshops, teach meets, conferences and more. As well as classroom technology such as interactive touchscreens and visualisers, we also support schools to make more of their school halls, outdoor areas, receptions and corridors. Our team of specialist EdTech Consultants have years of industry experience, and are here to speak on the phone or visit your school to provide the best solution for your establishment.

It's essential your school gets best value from your new technology, which is why we provide a suite of training and CPD services with our Elementary Technology Academy - here to help your teachers, SLT and IT Team to make the most of your investment.

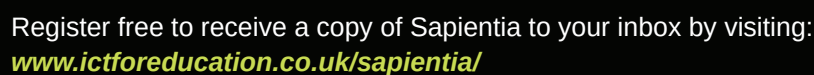
#### Get in touch to find out more:

 [enquiries@elementaryuk.com](mailto:enquiries@elementaryuk.com)





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# Notes

	
	
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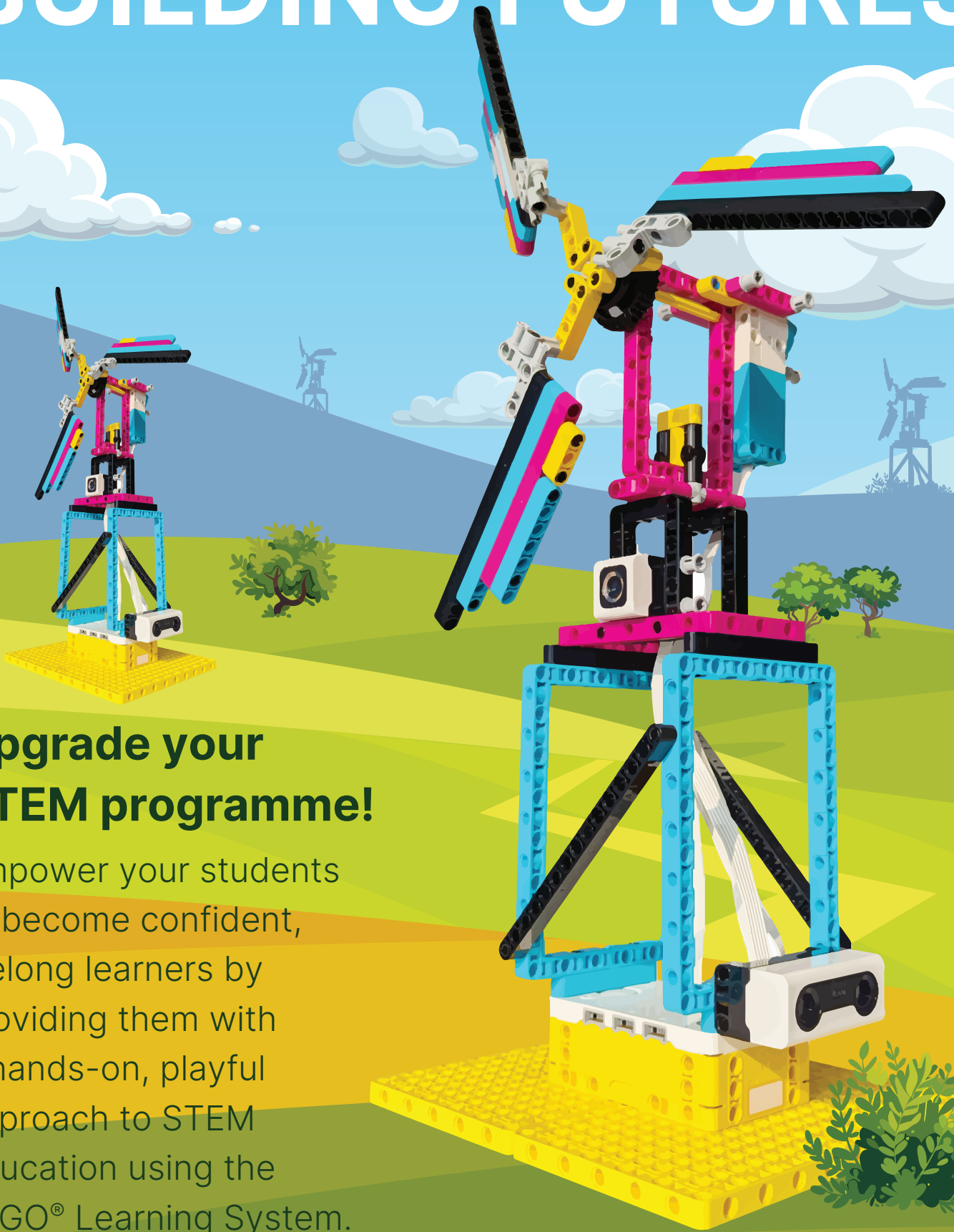
### Modular Design

This ruggedness is coupled with modularity—internal components are easily replaceable, extending the product's lifespan and reducing repair costs.

For more information about ASUS Education solutions please contact us at: [education\\_uk@asus.com](mailto:education_uk@asus.com)



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