



Computing
Hubs

Bishop Challoner Catholic College
Birmingham and Central Midlands

Your local
computing news,
events and
updates



Welcome to our Spring newsletter. We have had a short half term and the Easter holidays will shortly be with us. We hope you all have a well earned break.



Mystery Manor - I Belong Event

A cyber security focused event for Years 8/9 girls at the University of Warwick on 13th June. Bring groups of 4 girls to solve the mysteries of the day.

Details

Date: 13th June

Time: 10am till 1:30pm

Venue: University of Warwick

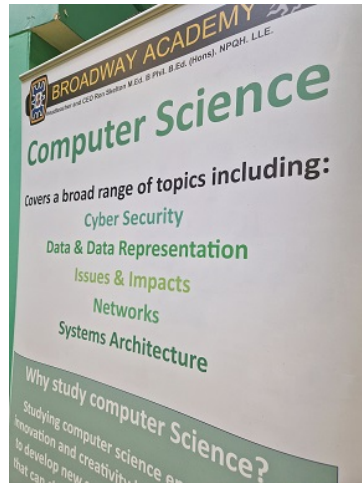
Activities

Code Quest: Crack codes and unravel hidden messages in this cryptic challenge.

Data Detective: Scour the web for clues and piece together evidence to crack the case in this investigation.

To register your school for more information on the event please complete this form: <https://forms.gle/N7osGdThJx3EuPuH6>

Guess my Career!



The I Belong programme has ignited and highlighted the passions of teachers to encourage girls into coming careers. I had the pleasure of attending an event specifically targeting year 9 girls. They were 2 weeks ahead of selecting their options and the aim was to showcase a wide range of careers that were available to anyone. The event took place at Broadway Academy in Birmingham and included 6 volunteer STEM / Computing Ambassadors including a life/crane surveyor, UX researcher and a civil engineer. Each ambassador had their own table to greet groups of 5 girls. The girls then had 3 minutes to question the ambassador and use this information to try and guess their career. Each girl had a booklet with notes pages and a list of possible careers, including a few red herrings!

The groups of girls asked the ambassadors a series of questions including about their skills, qualifications, where they were placed to complete their job, was there any specific clothing they had to wear, what type of software did they use, did they use or analyse data as part of their role and so much more.

Melissa Parker, Head of Computer Science led the session to ensure timing and pace continued to allow all girls to speak to all ambassadors. Pam Jones, the local secondary computing hub lead was on hand to support Melissa and the girls in the groups to narrow down the career possibilities.

Overall, the day was a success, plans already in motion for next year and areas of improvement to make even more of an impact.



Get in touch with **Pam Jones**, Secondary Computing Hub Lead p.jones@stem.org.uk on how we can support you.

Benefits for Teachers to sign up Isaac Computer Science



Isaac Computer Science allows you to:

- Select and set self-marking homework questions
- Save time on marking
- Pinpoint weak areas to work on with your students
- Manage students' progress in your personal markbook

Isaac Computer Science aims to provide:

- Complete coverage of the leading exam specifications
- High-quality materials written by experienced teachers

Everything on Isaac Computer Science is free, funded by the Department for Education.

[Click to read more](#)

Getting started with the Computing Quality Framework (CQF)

The computing quality framework offers you the opportunity to self assess the current computing provision across the seven dimensions below:

- Leadership and Vision
- Curriculum and Qualifications
- Teaching, Learning and Assessment
- Staff Development
- Diversity, Inclusion and SEND
- Careers Education
- Impact on Outcomes



The first steps is to create an account and complete a simple baseline assessment.

All you need to do is access **each of the dimensions** and **click on the level** you think you are starting from and click **save** located at the top of each lists of levels.

Once you have this saved you can return to this at different intervals to review and add evidence. As a computing hub we can support you with this process.

[Click here to get started](#)

Accredited Certificates

The new certificate looking at encouraging girls into computer science is the I Belong certificate.

- ~ Attend a 2 hour short course
- ~ Download the handbook
- ~ Request your printed I Belong posters
- ~ Add to evidence box the units identified in the handbook that you are using
- ~ Evidence the engagement activity that you have run.

Pam Jones, our Secondary Computing Hub Lead has created a 1 page document to help with how to evidence the engagement activity, email [Pam](#) for a copy.

- All certificates that can be worked towards are:
- Computer science subject knowledge certificate (CSA)
 - Secondary Certificate
 - I Belong certificate
 - A Level subject Knowledge

We can support you through the certificates and understanding the evidence required or the process for certification.

[Get in touch to find out more](#)

Secondary Certificate

Have you completed your subject knowledge certificate (CSA) and now ready for the next step?

The Certificate in Secondary Computing Teaching allows you to choose from five pathways:

- Raising student attainment
- Curriculum leadership
- Supporting other teachers
- Championing diversity and inclusion
- Developing teachers

Each pathway suggests activities and CPD that would help you complete the certificate. [Pam Jones](#), our secondary Computing Hub Lead can meet and discuss your own personal certificate needs and support with evidence requirements.

Face to Face CPD



Foundation Knowledge of Computer Science for KS3 and GCSE

A high-quality computer science education equips students to use computational thinking and creativity to understand and change the world. Computer science forms the core of the computing national curriculum, a foundation subject and a vital aspect of a broad and balanced curriculum for all learners.

Feedback from our participant

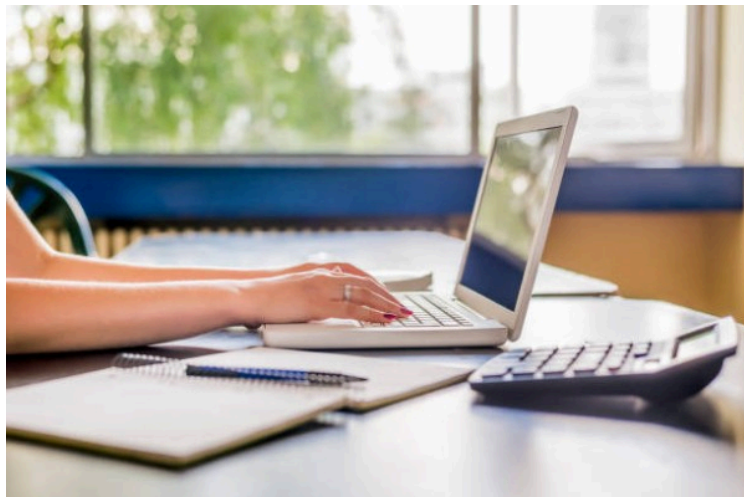
'Thank you so much this has been great. I have been teaching computer science since November and have just had my first GCSE student finish his GCSE CS Exams and I got most of it but was struggling, but now this really helped thank you.'

Upcoming course schedule in Birmingham -
11th April 2024, 9.30am - 3.00pm

[Click to book now](#)



Remote CPD



Introduction to algorithms, programming and data for D&T teachers - 2 days

Take your first steps towards teaching programming within Design and Technology, during this course you'll explore different programming techniques and how to apply them to popular platforms such as VEX, Crumble and Micro:Bit.

Adapted Teaching and Effective Learning Interventions in Secondary Computing

Getting computing education back on track, for all students, is an urgent priority requiring informed planning and implementation. Teaching and learning in computing has been challenging, with some aspects of subject knowledge and skills put under real pressure.

9th & 10th May 2024
9.30am - 3.30pm

[Click to Book](#)

18th June 2024
9.30am - 3.30pm

[Click to Book](#)

Further CPD

Plan ahead to book in CPD for yourself or others in your school. Below is a selection of courses scheduled for the Summer term.

[Read more](#)

Bespoke CPD at your School

Do you have enough teachers to run a course of choice at your school? Get in touch to discuss the CPD needs of your teachers both specialists and non specialists and we could run an instance at your school at a time suited to your needs. There are subsidies available for hosting a course delivered by us. Contact **Pam Jones**, Secondary Computing Hub Lead to discuss further p.jones@stem.org.uk



Introducing Cyberwomen Groups

By: Sophie Powell, Co-Founder of CyberWomen Groups

We had one mission creating CyberWomen Groups C.I.C.: Creating a community that inspires learning, networking, and positive change within STEM. We are forming a diverse community of women and allies in UK universities studying technology-based subjects, coming together to empower women in this field.



Our initiative is stand alone; we are entirely student led. Our executives' lead the way of their own branches, setting out their own individual goals and ambitions they want to achieve in the academic year. We ensure the students we work with have their voices heard and are provided with the support and guidance that they need to achieve their goals.

Starting with one branch, we now have four active branches and over 30 executive members working with us, soon to double in the coming months. We have held conferences, Capture the Flag challenges and many other incredible events that are highlighting the incredibly talented individuals we work with. This has given the students ample opportunity to grow into industry experts and leaders, giving them the confidence as they are the young professionals that are changing the cyber industry.

Additionally, we are very active in the education sector, holding workshops and assemblies for all school age groups. Our branches have taken part in Empower 2023, frequently visit schools to speak about the vast opportunities in the Cyber Security sector and attend careers fairs. We hope by doing this, our executives will inspire, educate, and promote the CyberWomen Groups community that will be ready to welcome them in their higher years of education.

For further information - <https://cyberwomengroups.org.uk/>

Empowering young people to make informed career choices

“What do you want to do when you grow up?” It’s a question that we’ve all asked more than once. It’s a question that for a lot of people is much easier to ask than answer.

[Click to read the story](#)



Are you interested in becoming one of the Computing Professional Development Leaders (PDLs)?

We rely on a network of professional development leaders (PDLs) to deliver, develop and review continuing professional development across the network.

If you are interested in becoming one of our PDLs, please contact us at teachcomputing@bishopchalloner.bham.sch.uk

Want to know what benefits to you and your school when becoming a PDL:

[Click to read more](#)

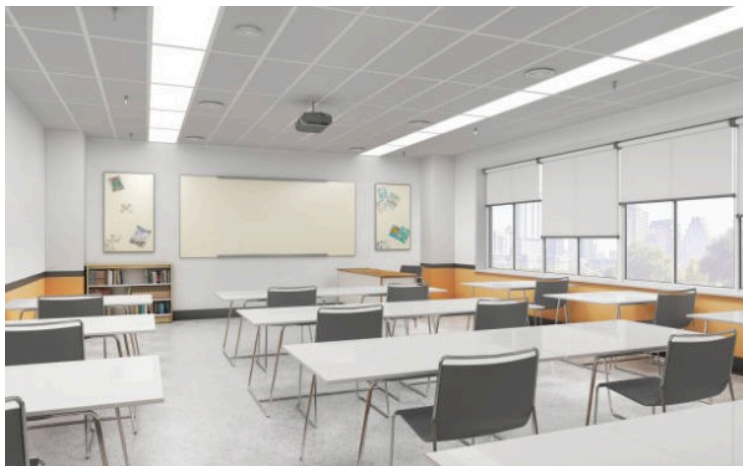


Message from Secondary Computing Hub Lead

Want to discuss your schools computing curriculum offer and what is on offer in the area?

You can request a meeting with **Pam Jones**, our Secondary Computing Hub Lead.

[Schedule your meeting here](#)



Venue Available to Hire?

We are seeking new venues to host our courses in order to increase our offer and make it accessible for more teachers. If your school has a suitable room to hire and you have the

facilities to provide refreshments (subsidies are available to cover the costs) and possible photocopying if required, please contact us to discuss further:
teachcomputing@bishopchalloner.bham.sch.uk



Stay updated with Birmingham and Central Midlands Computing Hub!
www.bctsa.org/computing-hub

Contact us for further information:
teachcomputing@bishopchalloner.bham.sch.uk

For your local support, follow us on social media through X and Facebook.



Unsubscribe

Computing Hubs are part of the National Centre for Computing Education and are led by schools and colleges across England with excellence in teaching computing. These Hubs support schools and colleges to provide a high-quality computing education to all young people. © STEM Learning Ltd

