Five reasons your school should teach computer science

BY **CAS Barefoot**

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Computer science has been an integral part of the national curriculum since 2015.

No wonder teachers are looking for stimulating and fun ways to teach it.

Barefoot makes computer science, or 'computational thinking', easy. Easy for teachers to learn and, therefore, easy for them to teach.

We've worked with schools, academic partners and governmental bodies to create our resources. What we've learned is summed up as our five core reasons for making computer science as integral to your teaching as reading and writing.

1 Cross-curricular development

Computer science has been proven to help **improve pupils' skills with logic, maths and English.** Computer science is also extremely easy to integrate with nearly all subjects, as computational thinking skills apply across the entire school, from geography to PE. It can even blend into spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.
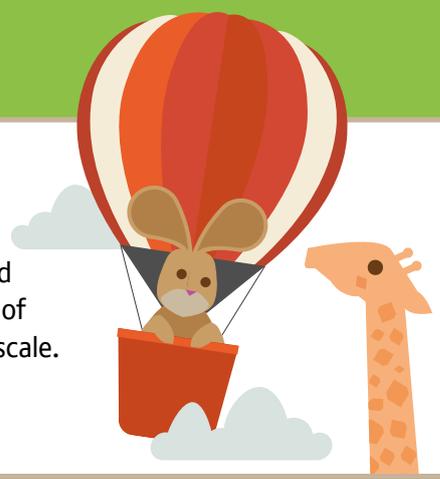
2 Creative expression

Digital skills are much sought-after in the booming creative industries. Photoshop know-how is a must among today's graphic designers. And Raspberry Pi DJ mixing desks and art installations (created using 3D mapping software) bring tech and art even closer together.

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3 Social mobility

Technology is a great equaliser. With tech jobs based primarily on merit and ability, a pupil's understanding of computer science opens up opportunities on a global scale. Technology roles score consistently high with social equality and mobility scores.

4 Economic necessity

Average tech industry salaries are up to £50,000 a year – **36% higher than the national minimum wage.**

There are currently 1.56m digital tech roles, with job creation at 2.8% above the national average.

The UK digital tech industry is currently worth £161bn

5 It's huge fun!

A cornerstone of modern education, computer science is also great fun to learn. While discovering the subject, pupils can create games, animate characters, craft stories and test scientific inventions… **blissfully unaware they're learning the digital skills they'll need in the future.**

Algorithms
making steps & rules

So what are you waiting for?

The best way to begin your school's computer science journey is to book a Barefoot workshop. Barefoot is a nationally approved programme that educates and empowers primary teachers with computer science know-how.

Visit **www.barefootcas.org.uk** and book a free 60/90-minute workshop for your school. Led by a Barefoot volunteer, it'll introduce the basics and provide easy-to-follow lesson plans.

You can also access Barefoot's extensive resource library free of charge. It'll keep your pupils engaged, inspired and empowered by computer science.