How UK digital economy policy fosters enterprise and entrepreneurship through the Key Stage 3 computing curriculum.

**Pupil Interview:**

St Aiden’s Church of England High School

**Name Date**

**Have you completed the “group interview” consent form?**

**Overview of the interviews:**

The purpose of this interview is to explore with Year 9 pupils, like you, how you are being impacted and affected through learning computing skills and concepts in school. This will be semi-structured group interview, which means that although there are few questions listed below these are more ‘jumping off points’, rather than questions I am looking for specific answers to. This interview will be split in to two parts during the first 20 minutes you will be given a chance to discuss the topics as a group (without me present), after the first 20 minutes I will then join you and talk to you about your thoughts and responses to the topics.

This interviewed will be transcribed (what has been said will be typed up into something like a script). If you are interested, once the Interview has been transcribed I can provide you with a transcription to review, and should you wish to clarify anything you have said, you will be given an opportunity to do so. Once the interview has been ‘transcribed’ I can pass the transcription on to your teacher to you (Should you wish).

I would also like to reiterate that this interview is confidential and not in anyway aiming to judge or evaluate your understanding or skill in terms of computing. This interviews is a chance for me to understand your point of view and perspective. Should I use direct quotations form this interviews in any form, every effort will made to ensure that your words are anonymised (meaning that it will not possible for anyone to know who said the precise quote). The purpose of this interview is to allow your voice as a pupil to inform and shape research in regards to the computing curriculum.

## Purpose of the research:

This research is aiming to understand the process which has informed the shaping of the UK computing curriculum, how this is being interpreted by schools and teaching professional and the impact it is having on both young people and teachers. Through this interview we will be discussing how you use computers in your day life, how you think you will use computers in the future and what you feel the impact of the computing curriculum is.

This interview is a chance for me to understand your personal experience and understanding; there are no right or wrong answers.

Finally I want to thank you for your time and honesty. This research would not be possible without the support of pupils such as you.

Benjamin Wohl M.A. M.Res. HighWire CDT, Lancaster University [b.wohl@lancaster.ac.uk](mailto:b.wohl@lancaster.ac.uk)

# Group Discussion

*Please look at the following discussion prompts, spend a few minutes discussing each one.*

## How do you use computers now?

1. Can you name three computer scientists, or people who have influenced the field of computing?
2. What sort of a person do you think is good at computing?
3. How would you complete the following sentence: “Computers are for...” ?
4. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement:
   1. “I am the same person when I am online, as I am when I am off line.”
   2. “I say things online that would not say off line.”
   3. “How much a person knows about computers, changes how they interact with other people when online.”

## How do you think you will use computers in the future?

1. In 10 years time what do you think the “digital world” will look like?
2. What do you think will be possible (in computing terms) in the future that is not possible now?
3. How much of your time do you think you will spend using a computers or digital devices when you are an adult?

## What do you think the impact of the computing curriculum is on you?

1. Do you think your computing lessons require you to change, this could be as a person, or how you think, or how you behave? If yes, how? in what ways?
2. What do you think is the main purpose of you learning computing and about computers in school?
3. To what extent do you think that what you have learned in your computing classes relates to how you use computers in your everyday lives? What about how you will use computers in the future?
4. What would make your computing lessons more engaging or exciting?

# Interview Questions

*These are questions I will cover in the second half of the interview, feel free to read them and think about your answers before hand.*

## How do you use computers now?

1. Do your lessons require you to think in a different way?
2. What does the term ‘Computational thinking’ mean to you?
3. Do you have your own computer at home? How many computers in total are there in your home?
4. How much time do you feel like that you spend using computers or digital devices during an average day? What is it you spend your time doing on these devices?
5. What does the term “social media” mean to you? Do you use any social media, how much time do you spend using social media?
6. Do you consider yourself to be part of any online communities or groups, (such as online guilds, specialist forums)?

## How do you think you will use computers in the future?

1. When you are an adult, how important do you think it I will be to understand how computers and software works?
2. How do you think you will use computers in the future? At work? In your house? How about for hobbies, sports and play?
3. In 5 years time what do you think you will remember or use from what you have learned about computing in school?

## What do you think the Impact of the computing curriculum is on you?

1. Can you tell me about how you feel your work in computing is assessed, graded, or marked? What sort of work gets you good marks, what would result in you getting poor marks? Is there anything that is ‘completely unacceptable’ in terms of your computing course work?
2. If you don’t think you are very good at computing, what do you think you could do to improve? How will doing this change you as a person (if at all)?
3. In what way would you say learning about computing has affected your choices and decisions about the future?
4. Is there anything you should be learning about computing and computers but isn’t covered in your computer lesson?