

Executive Summary

The Computer Science Accelerator (CSA) is a flexible professional development programme designed to give teachers the subject knowledge and confidence to teach GCSE computer science. It is funded by the Department for Education, delivered by the National Centre for Computing Education (NCCE) and certified by BCS, The Chartered Institute for IT. The programme enables teachers to gain the subject knowledge required to teach the GCSE curriculum with confidence and drive attainment in their school.

The CSA is impactful for teachers, schools and young people

- Over 90% of CSA graduates stated that the programme had improved their computer science **subject knowledge** and their **confidence** to be able to teach GCSE computer science.
- 88% reported increased **enjoyment** in computer science having completed the programme.
- More than half saw a **positive impact on their colleagues**.
- A fifth of graduates said that there had been an **increase in the number of students studying computer science** as a result of the programme. The same number stated that there were now **more computer science lessons being taught in their school**.

The CSA meets the needs of schools and teachers, providing high quality and effective support

- 90% of graduates said that the **programme met their needs**, with 87% reporting that it was **pitched at the appropriate level**.
- 92% felt that the **combination of face to face and online courses was an effective way to study**.
- More than 80% of graduates **voluntarily chose to undertake more than the minimum required hours of study** before they took the final test at the end of the programme.
- Almost two thirds reported that the **final test gave them an insight into areas for future CSA engagement, helping them to improve further**.

Helping you teach computing

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