Computer Science Development Group meetings

Meeting 1. 8th/9th March 2017	
Agenda item	**Notes**
International provision of computer science at upper second level	The presentation shared the main findings of research conducted into the international provision of Computer Science courses at upper second level. The report is available on the NCCA website
Aim and objectives	The Development group discussed the nature of the course. They were divided up into three groups and were asked to consider draft aim and objectives. The NCCA executive was asked to compile the thoughts of the group for their consideration at the next meeting.

Meeting 2. 23rd March 2017	
Agenda item	**Notes**
Aim and objectives	The collected thoughts from the development group about the aim and objectives were discussed. An initial draft of the specification aim and objectives was agreed, with the understanding that these would be reviewed as the writing progressed.
Structure	A draft structure that represents a balance of theory and practice was proposed for the DG members to consider. The structure and content will be further discussed at the next meeting.

Meeting 3. 6th April 2017	
Agenda item	**Notes**
Learning outcomes	The development group worked collaboratively to develop draft learning outcomes relating to: • computer practices and perspectives • core concepts. The learning outcomes were discussed and refined. The group identified the key concepts and performances that should be captured in the learning outcomes. Jake will write a complete set of draft learning outcomes, based on the output of these discussions. These will be available for consideration and refinement by the group at the next meeting.
Assessment	Assessment and the nature of the components of assessment will be considered the next two meetings.

Meeting 4. 24th April 2017	
Agenda item	**Notes**
Learning outcomes	The development group worked collaboratively to finalise the draft learning outcomes relating to: • computer practices and perspectives • cross-cutting core concepts. The group will review the remaining learning outcomes on the contexts prior to the next meeting. The draft learning outcomes for the contexts section will be finalised at the next meeting
Assessment	Assessment, assessment criteria and the nature of the assessment components were discussed. Assessment will be a major focus of the next meeting. It was agreed that the practical nature of the subject should be reflected in the assessment.

Meeting 5. 15th May 2017	
Agenda item	**Notes**
Learning outcomes	The development group collaborated to finalise the draft learning outcomes relating to section 3 *Computer Science in Practice* The number of projects was reduced from 6 to 5. The structure of section 3 was amended to provide an indicative order for the projects. A detailed description of how the practices and principles and core cross-cutting concepts should be included in each of the projects will be included in the specification.
Assessment	Assessment, assessment criteria and the nature of the assessment components were discussed. Assessment will comprise 2 components. An end of course assessment (70%) and coursework (30%). As well as traditional question types, the end of course assessment will require students to demonstrate programming skills in a practical setting. The coursework assessment will reflect the structure of the projects in section 3.
Next steps	The draft specification will be published on the NCCA website for a period of consultation. The Development Group will reconvene following the consultation to consider the responses and prepare the final specification for implementation.