The Edtech 50
2018

A celebration of the people, products and projects shaping Education Technology across the UK
There are so many reasons to be optimistic about the possibilities for technology across education. Edtech is increasingly supporting improved outcomes across England and internationally, and in my short time as Secretary of State for Education I have already seen how it can support and transform education at every step of the journey.

Technology offers educators a wealth of opportunities to support effective and proven teaching practices as well as increased support for themselves, their institutions, and their students. However, we know it can sometimes be difficult to implement new technology or gain access to the evidence and equipment educators need. The benefits of digital technology are often seen as innovation that only digital experts can achieve, but that shouldn’t be the case. This is why the sector must come together to support this change.

The work of inspirational leaders across the sector who are working tirelessly to support education, will be fundamental in ensuring the wider realisation of the opportunities presented by technology to support improvements across the breadth of our education system.

I welcome this new initiative to highlight and celebrate many of the people, products and projects that have most impacted education.

Rt Hon Damian Hinds MP
Secretary of State for Education
Welcome to the Edtech 50

The Edtech 50 is a celebration of the people, products and projects shaping this dynamic and growing sector across the UK.

The Government’s Digital Strategy, published in February 2017, said this about our sector:

“Education technology is one of the fastest growing sectors in the UK, accounting for 4% of all digital companies, and UK businesses have become world leaders in developing innovative new technologies for schools. The potential benefits when implemented correctly are considerable, both in teaching and in school administration. We want to make sure our pupils, their parents and teachers are able to make use of these opportunities.”

The Edtech 50 would not have been possible without our superb and distinguished judging panel that include: Mark Anderson (ICT Evangelist), Sky Caves, (Basingstoke College of Technology), Sherry Coutu (Entrepreneur and Investor), Ian Fordham (Microsoft UK), Steve Frampton (Portsmouth College), Martin Hamilton (Jisc), Claire Price (Chepstow School), Dan Sandhu (Entrepreneur and Investor), Shahneila Saeed (UKIE), Bukky Yusuf (Teacher), Mark Martin (Educato), Peter O’Rourke (University of Suffolk) and Chair: Ty Goddard (Education Foundation and Edtech UK).

Edtech UK is a strategic body, established by the Education Foundation, to help accelerate the growth of the UK’s education technology sector across the UK and globally. Our reports, strategic policy work, lobbying, community events and networks help to connect and nurture this sector.

We’re confident that our work and that of others will see a powerful and joined up approach across Government. The Department for Education’s (DfE) new edtech team have been energetic in communicating the benefits of edtech. There is positive work on digital skills at DCMS with recent announcements in the budget. The welcome Industrial Strategy from DBEIS puts emphasis on Future Sectors. Barriers to the growth of the education and learning technology sector also need to be removed to accelerate the education technology economy here at home and for our UK exports with DIT.

The Edtech 50 has been chosen from a mixture of public nominations and the insight of our judging panel. It has been a challenging and exciting process. Such was the scale, quality and richness of nomination that this celebration contains fifty sections; but has, as you will read, over fifty mentions of people, products and projects. It is not quite an Edtech 100 – maybe next year – but we have also included important judges’ commendations and ‘ones to note’ across all sections.

I hope that the Edtech 50 helps us all celebrate a wonderful sector, recognise too the benefits of education technology and acknowledge the economic advantages of the growing edtech sector to the UK economy.

Thanks to the Education Foundation team, including Joy Voysey and particularly, Russ Darbon who managed this project. And thank you to Paul Feldman and the team, whose support for UK education technology and the Edtech 50 in particular has been important. Edtech UK in partnership with Jisc are working together to support and develop the British education technology sector.

Someone said to me, the #Edtech50 is like a love letter to the sector. And like all letters we may have left things out or even words unsaid – as chair of the judging panel those oversights are mine.

Ty Goddard
Director, Education Foundation
Edtech UK
ty@ednfoundation.org
@EdnFoundation
@EdtechUKHQ

It gives me great pleasure to introduce the Edtech 50 – the best of the UK’s excellent education technology people, products and projects, selected by a judging panel of expert educators and industry leaders.

When done right, edtech has the potential to transform lives for the better, helping people from disadvantaged backgrounds to achieve their full potential, and helping us to build the digital skills base that will be so critical to the UK’s global competitiveness in the years to come.

At Jisc we are very excited about sharing examples of good practice in education technology, working with edtech startups to accelerate their businesses, and supporting projects that are exploring innovative uses of edtech. The Edtech 50 show us how education technology can be a catalytic force for digital innovation in teaching and learning in partnership and collaboration with teachers and learners.

Paul Feldman
CEO, Jisc
@jisc

About Jisc

Jisc provides digital technology and resources to the UK’s higher education, further education and skills sectors. They are seeking to make the UK the most digitally advanced education and research nation in the world.

Jisc plays a pivotal role in the development, adoption and use of technology by UK universities and colleges. They put students at the heart of everything they do to deliver technology solutions for teaching and learning, making their experience better.

The crown jewel of Jisc’s support is Janet, a secure, state-of-the-art network infrastructure that they own, manage and operate, which spans all four nations of the UK.
The Judges

Mark Anderson
@ICTEvangelist
Former school leader with more than twenty years of experience in the classroom and leading successful faculty departments. Led on the teaching and learning and delivery on one of the earliest 1:1 rollouts at Clevedon School. Mark is a popular keynote speaker, strategic consultant and trainer. He is a passionate advocate for the purposeful use of technology linked to pedagogy.

With more than two decades of classroom experience, he recognises the power and importance of student voice in developing sound practice. An Apple Distinguished Educator, Google Certified Innovator, Microsoft Certified Educator and expert in mobile learning and associated pedagogies.

Sky Caves
@SkyCaves19
Sky is a Learning Technology Apprentice at Basingstoke College of Technology working as a part of the in-house digital team, BCoT Digital, to curate, research, train and assist with the implementation of digital tools throughout the college. She also works closely with Specialist Provision and, as of this year, has been curating self-directed learning resources for our Level 1 Future Pathways students’ blended learning.

Sherry Coutu
@scoutu
Sherry Coutu is a former CEO and angel investor. She chairs Founders4Schools and is a non-executive member of Cambridge University (Finance Board), Cambridge Assessment, Cambridge University Press and a NED of Zoopla and the London Stock Exchange Group. She also serves on the Advisory Board of LinkedIn.com.

Philanthropically, she supports the Prince’s Trust, the Crick Institute and serves on the Harvard Business School European Advisory Council. Sherry was appointed Commander of the Order of the British Empire (CBE) for services to entrepreneurship in the New Year's Honours List 2013, author of 'The Scale-up Report' on UK economic growth.

Ian Fordham
@ianfordham
Ian Fordham is Director of Education of Microsoft and leads their work with schools, colleges, universities and other learning institutions across the UK. He was formerly CEO of Edtech UK and Co-founder of The Education Foundation, worked for and advised a number of national education charities and is a former teacher.

Steve Frampton MBE
Since 2005, Steve has been Principal of Portsmouth College. Winner of the AoC Beacon for Collaboration. The director of several local community charities, including Business South, PiTC (community arm of Portsmouth Football Club), President of Portsmouth D of E and Chair of King Richards School Trust, he was recently appointed to the national board of Association of Colleges, national AoC Sport Board, and the ETF (PSPEP). 2016 saw Steve and the college featured in the business and leadership bestseller by Chris Lewis “Too Fast to Think”; Aptly christened “The BFG” within these pages, a reputation for innovation and creative thinking was further reinforced.

The Judges
2017 saw Steve's extensive career recognised with the awarding of a MBE for Services to Education.

**Ty Goddard**
@ty_goddard

Ty Goddard is the Director of the Education Foundation and Edtech UK – a new strategic body launched in 2015 to accelerate the edtech sector in Britain and globally. He is recognised as one of the UK’s leading experts on education reform and is a regular commentator on the future of education in the media.

Ty worked as an adviser to the Department for Education on Extended Schools and was Founder and Director of the British Council for School Environments; Managing Director of the award winning design company School Works; and Strategic Community Manager at Brighton and Hove City Council.

Before this he was an elected Chair of Education at Lambeth Council and worked as the UK and European Political Advisor for the NSPCC; National Campaigns Co-ordinator for SCOPE. He was voted onto the Evening Standard London list over three years and is also a Tech London Advocate.

**Mark Martin**
@urban_teacher

Mark Martin is recognised for his insight and passion for education and technology. He has taught ICT for over 10 years and has become an expert in helping teachers and schools use technology to improve teaching and learning. Mark is an international speaker travelling to different countries inspiring educators to become better facilitators. Also Mark is actively involved in the UK tech sector, supporting tech companies and promoting cultural diversity within organisations.

**Peter O’Rourke**
@ruairc_com

Director of IT at the University of Suffolk, Peter is an active contributor to the wider technology landscape in Higher Education with roles on the Executive Committee of UCISA (ucisa.ac.uk) and as its representative on the HESA Data Futures Programme Board. Peter is a regular blogger and contributor to industry and sector events.

In a career spanning the arrival of the green screen VDU in Mainframe computer rooms and 1-2-1 ‘computer’ development between schools, colleges and universities, Peter has worked in both the private and public sectors, with a focus on the application of technology as opposed to the technology itself. Peter believes that partnership, underpinned by knowledge exchange, between education and industry is vital to driving digital innovation.

Peter is a member of the British Computer Society (MBCS), a school governor, a trustee of the Creative Computing Club Charitable Foundation. Interested in photography and is a Liverpool FC supporter.

**Claire Price**
@chepstowhead

Claire has been Headteacher of Chepstow School since 2012. During this time, student outcomes have risen significantly. Prior to this post, she was Vice Principal of a large inner city comprehensive school in the South West which was judged outstanding in 2011. Claire is an advisor for the Education Foundation, and led a Policy Forum for Wales last summer with the Foundation.

Chair of the LA Strategic Partnership Group, which is a multi-agency team supporting vulnerable children, young people and families. Member of the EAS Headteacher Strategy group.

In addition to these roles, I am the leader for WomenEd in Wales, a DfE Women’s Coaching Pledge coach and a Lead Mentor for the newly-established Chartered Teacher Programme.

**Shahneila Saeed**
@Shahneila1

With over 20 years of experience in Computing education, Shahneila has seen the changes to the computing curriculum from many perspectives. As a teacher and Head of Department she led her department’s transition to computing several years ahead of government changes. As a founding Computing At School Board Member she helped develop the Computing Programmes of Study.

In 2014 Shahneila joined Ukie (UK Interactive Entertainment Association) to become Head of Education and, a year later, Director for the Digital Schoolhouse programme. Author of Hacking the Curriculum: Creative Computing and the Power of Play, Shahneila’s work around using play-based learning to teach computing in the Digital Schoolhouse programme continues to receive increasing recognition.

**Bukky Yusuf**
@rondelle10_b

Bukky Yusuf is a Secondary Science teacher, consultant and qualified coach. She has spent over a decade in London schools, teaching Science.

Bukky has been a leader in the field of educator professional development and educational technology training.

Bukky uses her experience with professional development, technology integration and effective pedagogical strategies to help teachers adopt mobile learning environments that aid in class and out of hour learning. She is an innovator in 1:1 classroom implementation.

Bukky serves as an Education Board member of Innovate My School.

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People

Naimish Gohil
www.showmyhomework.com
@Team_Satchel
Founder and CEO of edtech firm, Satchel, based in Stratford, London Borough of Newham. Naimish quit teaching and began coding to create a product that made the homework process better. Starting out with a team of three, Satchel is now a business of 50 people, with its technology used by 1,500 schools in 23 countries. Its flagship app, Show My Homework, enables teachers to manage homework efficiently, while appealing to students (and parents) for its ability to be accessed on their personal platforms. Recent developments: content delivery, with education publishers, Collins, and an online tutoring service.

Vikki Liogier
www.bdigifab.com
@vikkiiiiogier
Vikki Liogier, recently appointed, Head of Learning Technologies at the Education and Training Foundation. Founded her own consultancy, BdigiFAB. As Head of Digital, Literacy, Voice and Consultancy, BdigiFAB. As Head of Learning Technologies at the Education and Training Foundation, she and her team transformed the teaching and learning environment. The pioneering use of Digital Voice Experts (DVX) as digital ambassadors gained national specification. Vikki has been ambassadors gained national recognition. Vikki has been awarded a well-deserved Lifetime Achievement award from the International Dyslexia Association in 2017 which also shows the power of the product to support people with learning difficulties, dyslexia or visual impairments, as well as a range of English Language Learners.

Sam Chaudhary
www.classdojo.com
@samchaudhary_
@ClassDojo
San Francisco based, British co-founder with Liam Don of ClassDojo – positive behaviour management software – growing and popular education technology used by over 35 million teachers, parents and students in over 90% of US schools, and 180 other countries. Ty Goddard, Edtech UK, says, “To visit and talk with Sam and his team is to hear the growth story of UK education technology, in all its twists and turns to becoming a world leader.”

Duncan Wilson
www.eduky.co.uk
@Classcharts
Duncan was a secondary school teacher for 16 years and founded EduKey, now part of TES, in 2010 with Gintas Sasnauskas. Key products include, Provision Map, designed to assist SEN/ALN Co-ordinators with reviews of interventions and Class Charts providing data rich seating charts. Based in Fishguard, West Wales, Edukey employs local people, often ex-students and Duncan is generous with his time, when not out on the water, to build the edtech sector across Wales and beyond.

Martin McKay
www.texthelp.com/en-gb/
@texthelp
Founded Texthelp, a Northern Ireland global edtech assistive technology success story, providing literacy support to students and educators in schools, colleges and universities. Martin was awarded a well-deserved Lifetime achievement award from the International Dyslexia Association in 2017 which also shows the power of the product to support people with learning difficulties, dyslexia or visual impairments, as well as a range of English Language Learners.

Dr Ross Parry
@rossparry
Appointed in late 2016 as the University of Leicester’s Deputy Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Digital) to lead the institution’s ‘digital by default’ approach. This ‘whole system’ method management software - growing and popular education technology used by over 35 million teachers, parents and students in over 90% of US schools, and 180 other countries. Ty Goddard, Edtech UK, says, “To visit and talk with Sam and his team is to hear the growth story of UK education technology, in all its twists and turns to becoming a world leader.”

Bethany Koby
www.techwillsaveus.com
@bethanykoby
Bethany is Chief Executive and the co-founder, with Daniel Hirschmann, of Technology Will Save Us. Creating STEM play experiences through digital and physical toys that support young people to learn about technology and coding, Bethany is generous with her time, articulate and a successful edtech business-builder and creator.

Vivi Friedgut
@ViviFriedgut
Realising that too many people are slaves to their debt instead of masters of their money, Vivi Friedgut founded Blackbullion.com by building on her finance-related presentations on campus across the UK. Within two years, Vivi headed up an online and inter-active education platform which provides impactful and effective financial education in partnership with 24 universities. In the words of one of our esteemed judges: “Yea, it kicks ass!”

The Maths x 5
Andrew Hall
@AndySumdog
Colin Hegarty
@hegartymaths
Bruno Reddy
@MrReddyMaths
Tom Minor and Nicola Chilman
doodlemaths.com
@DoodleMaths
We may not need to visit Singapore for maths mastery, if these maths edtech heroes succeed. Andrew from Edinburgh-based, Sumdog, to global teacher prize-nominated Colin Hegarty, to Bath-based, Tom and Nicola from Doodle Maths, to guitarist, Times Tables, Bruno; these are the people helping to power the Maths UK revival.

Katy Potts
@katypotts
Katy Potts has worked for Islington Council since 1999, developing digital education services to schools and families. She is responsible for a highly subscribed service in Islington and across London, in partnership with clusters of lead schools, teachers and digital leaders. Works closely with key organisations, to promote and share good practice at events hosted in Tech City or at the Emirates (the venue for Islington Computing Celebration, 2018). She specialises in Online Safety, sits on the UK Safer Internet Centre Advisory Board and last year was announced as London’s Local Champion 2017. Spearheaded introduction of ‘Kids Judge’ Bett event.
The Edtech 50

College: “It works!” from panel judge, Steve Frampton

materials to enhance learning and of SEN specific video-based factored in, including the creation addressed within Ed Tech, are of SEND students, not always to promote learning. The needs make use of teaching videos children and adults access to allows a wide community of disseminates good practice and as a serving head teacher. Paul’s @YouTeachMe

www.youteachme.co.uk
Paul Rose

Founded YouTeachMe in 2012 as a serving head teacher. Paul’s enthusiasm, plus an excellent product, has allowed many schools to improve. This system disseminates good practice and allows a wide community of children and adults access to make use of teaching videos to promote learning. The needs of SEND students, not always addressed within Ed Tech, are factored in, including the creation of SEN specific video-based teaching materials to enhance learning and up-skill staff. Succinct comment from panel judge, Steve Frampton MBE, Principal Portsmouth College: “It works!”

The Funders – Six of the Best
Richard Taylor mediataylor.com @dick_taylor
Bhav Singh sandboxandco.com
Saul Klein OBE localglobe.blogspot.co.uk
Omidyar Network omidyar.com
Founders Factory Co-founder, Brent Hoberman foundersfactory.com @brent_hoberman
Emerge Education www.emerge.education @emergelab

There’s a developing investor eco-system exploring different methods to pump prime, co-own and accelerate our UK edtech businesses. Dick Taylor has long supported early UK edtech and is recognised for his early stage investment. Bhav Singh, from Sandbox has invested into large Edutainment deals and Founders Factory builds and scales early stage companies in-house. Saul Klein, now a partner of LocalGlobe has invested, co-founded and supported UK education technology extensively and the team at Omidyar Network grow in reputation for sound values and investment. Emerge Education play a role with an edtech accelerator, partnering with Jisc on the Edtech Launchpad – a seed fund in collaboration with ‘venture partners’ (investors). Succinct comment from panel judge, Steve Frampton MBE, Principal Portsmouth College: “It works!”

Melissa Highton thinking.is.ed.ac.uk/melissa/ @HoneyBHigh

Melissa is Assistant Principal for Online Learning at Edinburgh University and Director of Learning, Teaching and Web Services. Her particular interests include digital skills, 21st century curricula, Open Educational Resources and research-led teaching and online media. A vocal champion of open education, Melissa was instrumental in the University of Oxford’s podcasts project prior to moving to Edinburgh. This project resulted in over 21 million podcast downloads via Apple’s iTunes.

Laura Paterson @SCL_TechEDU

Digital leader/schools ICT Skills trainer and Microsoft Certified Educated for Fife Council and schools across Fife. Builds the tech community with warmth.

Bertie Hubbard www.mytutor.co.uk @Bertie_Hubbard @MyTutor

Co-founder with James Grant, and CEO at MyTutorWeb. Connects school pupils to university students from the Russell Group of universities for high impact one-to-one tuition via a live online learning space, equipped with live video and interactive whiteboard. Sessions recorded for future reference. Nominated with co-founder, James Grant for ‘Also run Edspace, a dedicated co-working space for the education community.’

The Educators x 11

Kellie Williams @kellie__digital

Kellie, is a ‘teacher geek passionate about digital learning’. This committed educator is a digital schools pioneer for the Welsh Government and teaches at Cornist Park Primary School. Kellie is a GwE (bilingual School Effectiveness and Improvement Service for North Wales) Digital Leader. @GwEDigidol – Cefnogi addysgu a dysg cydwyl ddefnyddio technolog diigidol yng Ngogledd Cymru.

José Picardo @josepicardo

Deputy Head teacher at Hampshire Collegiate School, José’s main interests include combining pedagogy, curriculum and technology to produce great teaching and learning. Maintains own website and his new book, Using Technology in the Classroom, has just been published by Bloomsbury.

Osi Ejiofor www.osistechtips.com @osistechtips

Assistant head, teacher of STEM and Founder of Osi’s Tech Tips. Osi has taught in Computing and ICT for over 7 years across three London boroughs, developing the use of technology across the primary schools. Digital Leader. His YouTube channel provides people with simple tech tips to help them use features of their devices that are readily available and free. As judge Mark Martin said, “Osi is a visionary person who is always pushing for innovation within the education sector”.

Ian Phillips www.iscdigital.co.uk @IanHabs @Habsboys

Assistant Head and Director Computing and ICT at The Haberdashers’ Aske’s Boys’ School. Ian is chair and a catalyst,
The Edtech 50

alongside Independent School Council member associations, of the Independent Schools Digital Strategy Group formed in 2007. He is also part of the Intel visionary network. Welshman abroad.

Ollie Bray
www.educate1to1.org
@olliebray

Ollie is Head Teacher at Kingussie High School – a school with traditional values but a modern approach – in the heart of the Cairngorms National Park. Ollie and his team have expanded the curriculum – to help teach and motivate students and develop work readiness. He says, he’s a ‘bit of a traditionalist’ and sees the school’s rich digital ethos as underpinning these changes. Ollie presents and shares their journey with frankness and warmth.

Peter Rafferty
www.raff.creativeweblogs.net
@prr12

Peter is a teacher, #IntelVisionary and #GoogleCertified educator. Peter is a global educator living in Maghull and ranges across Europe, USA and South Africa.

Carol Allen
@caroljallen

Carol is a consultant, advisor, teacher, writer and speaker, with experience, from teaching to higher education, recently in Maghull and ranges across the areas of accountancy and law. Carol is an advocate for the teaching profession and believes that education should be led by teachers. She is a writer and speaker, with experience, from teaching to higher education, recently in Maghull and ranges across the areas of accountancy and law.

Deborah Kelsey Millar
www.learningwheel.co.uk
@debkelsey

Deborah is a learning strategy and vision, and created the well regarded LearningWheel model of digital pedagogy.

Peter is a teacher, #IntelVisionary and #GoogleCertified educator. Peter is a global educator living in Maghull and ranges across Europe, USA and South Africa. Peter is a teacher, #IntelVisionary and #GoogleCertified educator. Peter is a global educator living in Maghull and ranges across Europe, USA and South Africa.

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Carol Allen
@caroljallen

Carol is a consultant, advisor, teacher, writer and speaker, with experience, from teaching to higher education, recently in Maghull and ranges across the areas of accountancy and law. Carol is an advocate for the teaching profession and believes that education should be led by teachers. She is a writer and speaker, with experience, from teaching to higher education, recently in Maghull and ranges across the areas of accountancy and law.

Deborah Kelsey Millar
www.learningwheel.co.uk
@debkelsey

Deborah is a learning strategy and vision, and created the well regarded LearningWheel model of digital pedagogy.
Clicker7 – Crick Software
cricksoft.com
@Cricksoft
Clicker7, developed by Northampton based, Crick software, established by ex-teacher John Crick in 1993. Clicker7 is useful and thoughtful literacy support software for young people from four upwards. Creates differentiated speaking, listening, reading and writing activities easily for all pupils. The introduction of a speech bubble allows voice notes and the ability to keep playing back supports memory retention too. Inclusion supports everyone.

Microbit
www.microbit.org
@microbit_edu
Pocket-sized micro computer with motion detection, a built-in compass and Bluetooth. Given free to every child in year 7 across UK in 2018. More recent global focus, aiming to reach 100 million people with upgraded software. Since 2016 the Microbit Educational Foundation has been the responsible agency for Microbit. It is a UK based but redistributes the bulk of any surplus money generated into providing free devices to exceptional microbit educational programmes across the globe. Big thanks to the BBC and partners.

Raspberry Pi Zero
@Raspberry_Pi
Smaller version of Raspberry Pi, with twice the utility, affordable enough for any project. Further iteration (Raspberry Pi Zero W) launched in February 2017 with added wireless LAN and Bluetooth connectivity. Part of the Raspberry Pi family of devices whose sales figures make them the third best-selling general computer in the world.

VEO
www.veo-group.com
@VEO_app
VEO is a video enhanced observation tool for Education and a spin out from Newcastle University. Developed in collaboration with schools and teachers to produce a game and easy to use system to help educators improve quality, performance and share good practice. Led by Paul Millar and Jon Haines since 2013, Newcastle’s VEO is gaining lots of love and not just from educators, but also across clinical and corporate training.

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Pocket-sized micro computer with motion detection, a built-in compass and Bluetooth. Given free to every child in year 7 across UK in 2018. More recent global focus, aiming to reach 100 million people with upgraded software. Since 2016 the Microbit Educational Foundation has been the responsible agency for Microbit. It is a UK based but redistributes the bulk of any surplus money generated into providing free devices to exceptional microbit educational programmes across the globe. Big thanks to the BBC and partners.

FutureLearn
www.futurelearn.com
@FutureLearn
As we judge the Edtech 50, over 7million people are learning together with FutureLearn in more than 190 countries. Created by The Open University, this British success story facilitates access to hundreds of free online courses: from Language and Culture to Business and Management; Science and Technology to Health and Psychology. Nearly 150 top universities and specialist organisations are partners that design and curate content for each online course. And we didn’t even mention the word MOOC.

Firefly
fireflylearning.com
Creates the two students while studying for GCSEs, Firefly is an online learning tool that brings together teachers, students and parents. Teachers can quickly plan lessons and homework, to which students can respond instantly on any device. The parent app enables parents to be engaged and kept in the loop. Ease of use, time and money saving have already been demonstrated, and success further reflected in a £4.5 million Series A investment, the largest to date for an edtech company. Their board is chaired by Howard Bell, strategic business leader.

Kano
kano.me
@TeamKano
Inspired by a six year old who wanted to make a computer, providing it was as ‘simple and as fun as Lego’. Kano aims to give young people (and the young at heart) a simple, fun way to make and play with technology, and take control of the world around them. Thanks to Kano, you can build your own computer, learn code, plus make art, games and music. Adults and kids of all ages have built their first computers, created flower time-lapses, designed weather stations... as a result of using Kano.

GIS 4 Schools – Esri UK
schools.esriuk.com
@GIS4Schools
ArcGIS Online is a ‘Geo-Tech’ treasure trove that is free for all UK schools. A Web based Geographic Information System (WebGIS) that lets you discover, visualise, question, analyse, and interpret data to understand relationships, patterns, and trends from a local to global scale. ArcGIS Online for Schools is a cloud-based mapping platform that makes teaching and learning with GIS easy. Jason Sawle from Esri UK is on a map-heaven mission to help pupils understand the world around them and their place in it. With Web Apps like the ‘Living Atlas’ and ‘Storymaps’ Esri make it easy to use real data and tell stories that matter.

Kortext
kortext.com
@Kortext1
Founded in 2013 by James Gray and has become a leading learning platform and supplier of digital textbooks. Working with over 1,000 publishers including market leaders, it supplies over 500,000 ebooks to millions of students worldwide. Based in Bournemouth, it has a global reach from Canada to Australia. Kortext is available on all major device platforms including iOS, Android, Mac and Windows.

Minecraft Edu
education.minecraft.net
@PlayCraftLearn
Minecraft in the classroom. “One of the biggest successes around the game is the fact that it has brought the idea of game based learning into popularity, with a lot more educators now looking seriously at the idea of games to help teach traditional academic concepts,” says, Shahnella Saeed, Edtech 50 judge.
Projects

Basingstoke College of Technology
bcot.ac.uk @BCoT
The work around digital technology across this College to support teachers and student learning is gaining a growing reputation. Principal Anthony Bravo has created a welcoming open door and the work led by generous digital Innovation Specialist and Lecturer, Scott Hayden, @bcotmedia leads national thinking.

The Shirelands Team, Smethwick, West Midlands
www.collegiateacademy.org.uk
@ShirelandCA www.shirelandtechnology primary.org.uk @ShirelandTP
Sir Mark Grundy, is a pioneer of education technology to support teaching and learning. Mark is Executive Principal of Shireland Collegiate Academy, Teaching School and Research School; also, providing e-learning support and now building four tech-rich Free Schools under the determined leadership of Kirsty Tonks, Principal of Shireland Technology Primary.

ImOkay App and Project
www.imokay.org.uk
Katie Griffiths was winner of a Tech Woman 50 award for her contribution to enabling other young girls to get into tech. An inspiring young role model. The app she created with fellow teenagers, Alex, Emily and Josie, @imOkayApp has helped 1000s, with real life stories about sexuality and gender, simple definitions and support for schools. The aim is simple – helping young people through difficult times and plugging the gap in help apps for LGBTQ teens. The girls were on the Apps for Good programme at Stratford Grammar School for Girls.

Flipped Learning/Online Resource, HELM Open
www.nottingham.ac.uk/helmopen/
This Jisc supported project has developed a wide range of technological and media-based re-usable educational materials and interventions in health/maternity care. Robust methodology in the design and development of resources for learning from staff involved (Prof. Heather Wharrad, Dr Richard Windle, Kirsty Coolin and their colleagues) who promote the activities of HELM modules at the University of Nottingham. Flipped learning resources for the Politics of Maternity Care Module included a live and recorded debate by experts on induction of labour.

Edtech Podcast
www.theedtechpodcast.com @PodcastEdtech
Improving the dialogue between ‘ed’ and ‘tech’ through storytelling, for better innovation and impact. Informative and thought provoking. ‘Just simply awesome!’ says @TeachingLDNComp and the cs4fn Project
and the cs4fn Project
Teaching London Computing
Teaching London Computing
for visually impaired learners.

Women Edtech
WomentEd_Tech
Connecting existing and aspiring women in digital young girls to get into tech. Led by @nicoleonsfords and part of the WomenEd vibrant and influential network. National #WomenEd Leaders: @ViviennePorritt @TheHopefulHT @keziah70 @equitablelead @JulesDaulby

Coding for the Future
Five exceptional and far-sighted coding related projects:

Code Kingdoms
codekingdoms.com @CodeKingdoms
Allows students to transition from block-based to text-based programming. The simple slider function enables students across ages and abilities to engage with the environment effectively...aimed at ages 8–14.

Code Club
www.codeclub.org.uk @CodeClub
A nationwide network of volunteers and educators who run free coding clubs for young people aged 9–13.

Project Torino, Microsoft
aka.ms/projecttorino
Physical programming language for visually impaired learners.

Teaching London Computing and the cs4fn Project
@TeachingLDNComp
Outreach project from Queen Mary College, University of London and resource hub for CAS London: the computers at school learning centre – ‘just simply awesome!’ says judge Shahnneila Saeed.

London Grid for Learning
lgf.net
Led by John Jackson ex-Camden CIO – A community of 3,000 schools, academies and LAs in the capital and beyond benefitting from scale in procurement and development of secure broadband, IT services and curriculum resource. Set up by the 33 London boroughs in 2001 – 97% of London’s Schools are part of this community, connecting to the Internet via Jisc’s Janet network.
The Power of the Network/s
Microsoft Innovative Educator
#MIEExpert
@microsofteduk
www.microsoft.com
Google certified educator
#GoogleCE
@GoogleForEdu
www.google.com/edu
Apple Distinguished Educator
#AppleTeacher
@AppleEDU
www.apple.com/education/
apple-distinguished-educator
Established networks of trained,
certified, educator ambassadors
for market-leading Apple, Google
and Microsoft products, which
often underpin current and
developing edtech activity. “Can
these networks be harnessed and
work better together for further
leaps forward in edtech adoption
and understanding across the
UK?” asks, Ty Goddard.

Glow Programme, Scotland
glowconnect.org.uk
Online learning community in
Scotland a nationally available
digital environment for learning.
Via a user account, Glow gives
access to a number of different
web services: MS Office 365,
WordPress blogs, Wikispaces
and wikis to GlowTV and Glow
Meet. Provides a variety of safe
and secure cloud-based services
for collaborative, innovative and
social learning etc. Glow
accounts are available to
all schools and education
establishments across Scotland.

National Digital Learning
Council, Wales
hwb.gov.wales/community-ndlwc
Wales deserves commendation
for pioneering a new approach to
digital across the curriculum.
Leadership of key politicians,
Education Secretaries, Leighton
Andrews AM to Kirsty Williams
AM, committed academics like
Prof Tom Crick has been crucial;
but the ownership and leadership
of educators will ensure future
success of the Digital Competency
Framework (DCF). The Council,
which began life as a ministerial
task and finish group, has been
chaired since 2012, until recently
by the committed Janet Hayward
OBE, with now new chair, Special
School Head, Chris Britten, vice
chair, Gary Beauchamp, Caffiff
Metropolitan University; and
present members, Simon
Billington, teacher; Ty Goddard,
Head and Adviser; Catherine
Kucia, deputy headteacher; Dilwyn
Owen Head of Digital
Competence at Ysgol Gymraeg
Bro Morgannwg and Adviser; Paul
‘Lanny’ Watkins, Digital Learning
Team at Ysgol Bae Baglan, Port
Talbot; Allison Howells, teacher;
Cwmclydach Primary School;
Gareth Dacey, Challenge Advisor,
Central South Consortium; Kay
Morris, ICT adviser, Ceredigion
County Council; Hannah Mathias,
E-learning Manager at Cardiff
and Vale College; Simon Brooke,
Strategic Director in Estyn and
Alyson Nicolson, Head of Jisc,
Wales. The Hwb Wales - hwb.gov.
wales – is also lively collection of
digital teaching resources.

Blended Learning
Consortium / Heart of
Worcestershire College
blc-fe.org
A great project and came out
of discussions around FELTAG
(Further Education Learning
Technology Action Group), a
partnership of Colleges
working together to create high
quality online learning content.
FELTAG is no longer convened
but the work to implement its
recommendations continues.
“The Blended Learning
Consortium, the work of
Peter Kilcoyne and the partner
Colleges is a great collaboration,
says Ty Goddard.”

Pioneering Imaginative
Employability Approaches
Sussex Downs College, Lewes –
Badging project funded by Ufi
Trust’s pioneering ‘VocTech
Seed Fund.’
www.sussexdowns.ac.uk
The VocTech Seed Fund is
-growing in reputation because of
well-designed criteria, ably
supported by thoughtful trustees
and CEO. The funding pot aims to
improve vocational skills in the
UK’s workforce by funding digital
solutions for vocational learning.
Focus on ‘scalable’ projects and
learners that have failed to be
engaged by the formal educational
system. One of the fund’s
recipients includes Sussex Downs
College’s Digital Guild, led by
innovator, Kevin Jones.

Founders4Schools/Workfinder
www.workfinder.com
Bringing opportunities for the
young and ideas and inspiration
to business. Making an impact on
the lives of UK school children by
giving them great entrepreneurs
as role models. An inspirational
gives 10-18 year olds the
opportunity to design a digital
product in a way that is designed
to encourage girls to pursue a
career in technology.

BT STEM Crew
stemcrew.co.uk
An innovative online platform
offering teachers interactive
digital resources covering a range
of subjects; each demonstrating
the applications of STEM through
real-life examples from Land
Rover BAR and the British
America’s Cup sailing team.

Apps for Good
www.appsforgood.org
Gives 10-18 year olds the
opportunity to design a digital
product in a way that is designed
to encourage girls to pursue a
career in technology.

BAFTA Young Games Designers
ygd.bafta.org
Working with educators and
some of the top names in the
video games industry, BAFTA
have opened a competition
allowing children aged 10 – 18
to win one of their prestigious
awards based on a game that they
either simply design, or create.
Judges’ Commendations

Girls Education Challenge (GEC) (@DFID_UK)
Ambitious DFID and partners funded programme aimed at supporting a million of the world’s most marginalised girls in developing countries to access learning opportunities, including many projects through edtech.

Maren Deepwell (@MarenDeepwell)
Chief Exec of Association for Learning Technology – a membership organisation of practitioners, researchers and policy makers with an interest in Learning Technology (LT). Her vision is for LT to become an effective way for all to learn, teach and assess.

Paul Morrison (@paulmorri360 @HPE_UKPS www.HPE.com)
Paul demonstrates exemplary leadership across education and technology. Committed and passionate about helping young people to succeed. Paul’s work for the Hewlett Packard Enterprise education team takes him throughout the UK’s education sector. Recently a finalist in the annual Black British Business Awards 2017 for STEM Leader of the Year. Mentor, soup kitchen volunteer and supporter of events, he exemplifies the power of being and leading.

Charles Wiles (@CharlesWiles)
Established entrepreneur and former Google Product Manager. Doctorate in robotics and artificial intelligence. Founded Zzish – educational quizzes to help young people memorise and master a subject. Recently ran successful £1m+ crowd-funder.

Bob Harrison (@BobHarrisonEdu)
Clear-sighted, trustee of Ufi Trust and edtech consultant. Passionate ambassador at large for edtech.

London Connected Learning Centre (CLC) (@LdnCLC)
An award-winning local learning organisation, based in Lambeth, that helps schools students and families use digital technologies to improve learning, part of Education Development Trust.

Ones to Note

The response to the call for public nomination was such that we have included a ‘Ones to note’ section. There are many who are also ‘ones to watch’ in the year ahead as their work comes to the fore.

Ones to Note – People
Richard Smith
Inspiring ICT teacher/trainer.

Laurie Forcier
Thought Leadership, Pearson.

David Bainbridge
CEO, Bo-Clips.

Jamie Smith
South Staffordshire College. Passionate digital advocate.

Mursal Hedayat
Truly inspirational. She set up Chatterbox, an online language tuition service that employs skilled refugees.

Glen Jones
Founder of Cyber Coach. In partnership with Manchester Metropolitan University developing ‘Emile.’

Justin Cooke
Investor and supporter of edtech, including Digital Theatre.

Nihal Salah
Growing the reputation of Unio by Harness.

Ollie Jones
The entrepreneur and trainee doctor behind the TeachMeSeries, University of Leicester.

Ian Koxvold – PWC
Incisive edtech business insights.

Priya Lakhani OBE
Founder/CEO of CENTURY Tech. Priya brings a business, legal background and zest to the world of education technology.

Guy Riese
Up Learn – AI and neuroscience.

Brad Forsyth
Digital champion and voice at Epping Forest College.

Ones to Note – Product
Tassomai
An intelligent online learning tool, predominantly for GCSE science.

Prospela
Interesting e-mentoring platform.

Ohbot
Robot head that is constructed and programmed by children.

OnVu Learning
User-friendly equipment that supports teachers, to engage with evidence-based professional development.
Peapodicity
Just launched their second product at London Toy Fair, in collaboration with students from LDEUTC. Also won a second award for AR Space Cards. 
Race for the Line on Dendrite
Exciting STEM skills. 
Pi-top
Project-based computer science and STEAM learning tools using Raspberry Pi. 
LIFT UPP
Interesting take on dentistry. 
EDDi
School improvement system powered by data insight. 
Erase All Kittens
Coding made fun and easy – designed to inspire girls to create. 
Teacher Tapp
Education survey tool. 
Maker Club
Maker club network and holiday STEM fun. 
Yoto
Early stage speaker pod and physical cards for children. 
‘How to fail your research degree’
Sage advice. 
Literacy shed
Inspiring platform with verve by Rob Smith. 
‘Developing Experts’
Mastery made easy. 
Innovate My School
A website that keeps teachers informed about the latest ideas and trends in edtech. 
ClassVR
Platform using the power of Virtual and Augmented Reality. 
DE-ENIGMA project
Researching humanoid robots. Using AI and tech to help make a real difference to the lives of children on the autism spectrum. 
NetSupport
AI Kingsley’s Net Support – solutions for the education sector. 
Wholeschool
Multiple award-winning Belfast-based Global Education Platform, fast approaching one million users. 

Wonde
Simplicity of school log-in and accounts use. 
EduKit
Social enterprise helping schools measure and track student wellbeing, show impact of spending, discover and record interventions that work. 

Ones to Note – Project
The SHARP PROJECT
Tech start-ups ecosystem and digital content, Manchester. 
Digital Schoolhouse
Powered by PlayStation, sponsored by SEGA and Warwickshire County Council. Uses play-based learning. 
Voca Tempo Project
Students at Richard Clausesley school working with Therapy Box to design an app for young people with cerebral palsy. 
Learning Foundation
Their toolkit – provides advice to schools about all aspects of introducing technology. 
CAVC (Cardiff and Vale College)
Pioneering and inspiring work – particularly around supporting learners with ALN/SEND. 
Pint of Science
Makes informal learning accessible, and “fearlessly breaking the barrier between public curiosity and complex R&D,” said their nomination. 
Oxford Hive
Oxford Hub for International Virtual Education. Exciting collaborative space. 

Third Space Learning
One-to-one SATS preparation. 
Creative Computing Club
A great club providing students with valuable opportunities for skills development in Suffolk. 
Open Ed Practices Project
Repository of edtech resources, following closure of successful project in Scotland. 
University of Northampton, Active Blended Learning Project
Ahead of Waterside Campus development. Thought leadership and project, led by Professor Ale Armellini and team. 
Education App Store
Online curation of best education apps. 

Ada National College for Digital Skills
A further education college in Tottenham Hale, London. It is named after Ada Lovelace and opened in September 2016. 
Ada
Bolton College’s Ada – a cognitive assistant for students, teachers plus its adaptive learning environment. 
Big Learning Company
Based in and created Cardiff’s Trammed space. Also popularising edtech and Lego education products. 
Arbor
Building data systems that can help save teachers’ time and improve student insight. 

Some of our work in the Edtech Sector

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Design: weareunlimited.co.uk

www.ednfoundation.org

www.jisc.ac.uk