

Computer Science	Development Group Meeting 7, March 25 <sup>th</sup> 2025 Short Description
Agenda Item	Notes
Overview of updated specification	The Executive provided an overview of updates made to the specification at the previous meeting, including the Coursework Project (AAC) and brief, Javascript in ALT1 and the inclusion of cybersecurity and ciphers.
Whole group discussion on updates	The group welcomed the edits overall, such as the assessment piece and the explicit reference to ciphers and to RSA encryption. It was decided that specifying Javascript could skew the ALT away from the design focus and into scripting. So while students can use technologies to enhance their website, JS should not be prescribed in the ALT nor in the assessment of programming languages. Recommendations for successful enactment discussed such as CS rooms, lists of resources for schools, and funding by the DE.
ALTs and AAC	The importance of the role of CPD in conveying the centrality and potential interconnections of the ALTs to the subject were expressed. And that ALTs are the lens for the course, learning tasks and not dry-runs for an assessment. The brief could be more open and not naming the ALTs in advance might promote choice and agency for students. The digital portfolio and a new overview diagram also seen as important.
Coherence and manageability	The group engaged in a carousel activity to reflect on the coherence and manageability of the updated draft: some edits for consistent use of terms and style, a new diagram for the design and development process and a discussion around timings of the AAC and scope for flexibility.
Next steps	<p>The Chair thanked members for their attendance and active engagement in the meeting. The Executive will review the discussions, and draft materials for the next meeting. Next meeting online to discuss sending the draft specification for an earlier consultation.</p> <p><b>Next Meeting:</b> May 8<sup>th</sup> 2025, from 10-12.</p>