Outreach Activities (Computer Science)

The School participates in varying outreach activities with schools, colleges and organisations as shown in the Table below. Additionally, the School engages with teachers through our *Computing 4 Teachers* initiative a collaborative project with the School of Education and the University's Science Learning Centre. This is a long-term project to help primary and secondary school teachers, and their schools, prepare for and deliver the new computing curriculum and complements the outreach work at primary and secondary schools, colleges and organisations. All our outreach activities are conducted by seven academic staff of whom four are male and three are female. Engagement is formally recognised within workload allocations.

In addition to external activities, events are held within the School with services such as the British Computer Society where we host a series of events. For example, in October the Ada Lovelace Day special event took place which was open to the public. Work with marketing on the UH Road Show which is taking place to ensure female representation at every event and we intend to review outreach activities to ensure that male and female representation is equal. We recently showcased our robot KASPAR at the university nursery to children and their parents to facilitate a link between the nursery and our School. This was a fun day and much appreciated by parents at the nursery. A parent who also works at the university in the School of Life and Medical Sciences commented:

"The children loved it, and have drawn lots of pictures of KASPAR, and enjoyed interacting with the robot. All the children had a chance to talk with KASPAR, and we plan to do something similar next year. My daughter is now obsessed with robots!"

Members of the Robotics research group have engaged with 1000+ people in various schools, colleges and organisations between 2012 and 2013. A sample of these activities is presented below.

Selection of outreach activities

Date	Outreach Activity	To Whom	Where
2012	Careers in IT and how to get there	Students & parents (100+)	Barnet College
2012	Careers in IT and how to get there	Students & parents (100+)	North Herts College
2013	Careers in IT and how to get there	Students & parents (100+)	Stanmore College
2013	Object-Oriented programming	Students and teachers (50+)	Meridian School
2013	Object-Oriented programming	Students and teachers (50+)	Fearnhill School
2014	CPD courses	Teachers	Science Learning Centre Consortium

Selection of outreach activities relating to Robotics

Date	Outreach Activity	To Whom	Where
2012	Kaspar presentation & demo	Sixth form students & parents (50+)	Queens School, Bushey
2012	Kaspar talk & exhibition	National Autistic Society professionals (100+)	NAS Conference, Harrogate
2013	Presentation on robotics	School children (50+)	UH Aim Higher
2013	Presentation	General public (200+)	2045 Futurist Symposium, Watford Palace Theatre
2013	Visit with Kaspar robot	School children (30+)	Summer play scheme, St Andrew's School, Hertford
2013	Kaspar presentation & demo	Hertfordshire Engineering Club (20)	Hertfordshire Engineering Club
2013	Demonstration of Kaspar, Charly & Sunflower robots	General public and school children (500+)	Bletchley Park
2014	Kaspar presentation	Hertford Rotary Club exchange programme, secondary school students from The Netherlands and UK	Hertford
2014	Kaspar Exhibition	National Autistic Society professional conference	Harrogate
2014	Kaspar Presentation & exhibition	Autism West Midlands Conference	Birmingham