



香港學術及職業資歷評審局
Hong Kong Council for Accreditation of
Academic & Vocational Qualifications

ACCREDITATION REPORT

**HONG KONG INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY AND
WREXHAM UNIVERSITY**

LEARNING PROGRAMME RE-ACCREDITATION

**BSC (HONS) COMPUTING
(TO BE RETITLED AS BSC (HONS) COMPUTER
SCIENCE)**

DECEMBER 2025

Table of Contents

	<u>Page</u>
1. TERMS OF REFERENCE.....	1
2. HKCAAVQ'S DETERMINATION.....	2
3. INTRODUCTION.....	8
4. PANEL'S DELIBERATIONS	9
4.1 <i>Programme Objectives and Learning Outcomes</i>	9
4.2 <i>Learner Admission and Selection</i>	12
4.3 <i>Programme Structure and Content</i>	17
4.4 <i>Learning, Teaching and Assessment</i>	20
4.5 <i>Programme Leadership and Staffing</i>	21
4.6 <i>Learning, Teaching and Enabling Resources/Services</i>	22
4.7 <i>Programme Approval, Review and Quality Assurance</i>	23
5. IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING THIS ACCREDITATION REPORT	26

Appendix

HKCAAVQ Panel Membership

1. TERMS OF REFERENCE

1.1 Based on the Service Agreement (No.: AA1086), the Hong Kong Council for Accreditation of Academic and Vocational Qualifications (HKCAAVQ), in the capacity of the Accreditation Authority as provided for under the Accreditation of Academic and Vocational Qualifications Ordinance (AAVQO) (Cap. 592), was commissioned by Hong Kong Institute of Technology and Wrexham University to conduct Learning Programme Re-accreditation (re-LPA) with the following Terms of Reference:

- (a) To conduct an accreditation test as provided for in the AAVQO to determine whether the programme of Hong Kong Institute of Technology and Wrexham University (the Operator) (with specifications stated below) meets the stated objectives and HKQF standards and can continue to be offered as an accredited programme; and
- (b) To issue to the Operator an accreditation report setting out the results of the determination in relation to (a) by HKCAAVQ.

Programme title (English and Chinese, if any)	Exit award title (English and Chinese, if any)	NCR Registration / Reference Number ¹	Mode of study	Programme length	Majors leading to distinctive awards, if any	Claimed HKQF level
*BSc (Hons) Computing 電腦學（榮譽）理學士學位	*BSc (Hons) Computing 電腦學（榮譽）理學士學位	253179	Full-time	3 years [#]	N/A	5
			Part-time	5 years [#]	N/A	5

* The Operator proposed to change the programme title and award title from “BSc (Hons) Computing [電腦學（榮譽）理學士學位]” to “BSc (Hons) Computer Science” in this re-LPA exercise.

[#] The Operator confirmed the discontinuation of Year 1 and Year 2 entry routes in this re-LPA exercise. With effect from AY2026/27, the Programme is a top-up degree programme with normal durations of one year for full-time mode and two years for part-time mode.

¹ NCR Registration / Reference number: the number assigned by the Non-local Courses Registry (NCR) under the Non-local Higher and Professional Education (Regulation) Ordinance, to registered / exempted courses respectively.

2. HKCAAVQ'S DETERMINATION

2.1 HKCAAVQ has determined that, subject to the fulfilment of the conditions set out below, the Programme meets the stated objectives and HKQF standard at Level 5 and can continue to be offered as an accredited programme with a validity period of three years.

2.2 Validity Period

2.2.1 The validity period will, provided that the Operator fulfils all pre-conditions to the commencement of the validity period set out in Section 2.4.1, commence on the date specified below. Operators may apply to HKCAAVQ to vary the commencement date of the validity period. Applications will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

2.2.2 The maintenance of the accreditation status within the specified validity period is subject to the fulfilment of the requirement set out in Section 2.4.2 by the specified deadline.

2.3 The determinations on the Programme are specified as follows:

Name of Operator	Hong Kong Institute of Technology 香港科技專上書院
Name of Non-Local Operator	Wrexham University 雷克瑟姆大學
Name of Award Granting Body	Wrexham University 雷克瑟姆大學
Title of Learning Programme	BSc (Hons) Computer Science
Title of Qualifications [Exit Awards] ^Intermediate Exit Award	BSc (Hons) Computer Science
Primary Area of Study and Training	Computer Science and Information Technology
Sub-area (Primary Area of Study and Training)	Computer Science and Information Technology

Other Area of Study and Training	Not applicable
Sub-area (Other Area of Study and Training)	Not applicable
HKQF Level	Level 5
HKQF Credits	120
Mode of Delivery and Programme Length	Full-Time, 1 year Part-Time, 2 years
Start Date of Validity Period	1 September 2026
End Date of Validity Period	31 August 2029
Number of Enrolment	Two enrolments per year
Maximum Number of New Students	Full-Time, 80 per year Part-Time, 5 per year
Address of Teaching Venue	213 Nam Cheong Street, Sham Shui Po, Kowloon 九龍深水埗南昌街213號

2.4 Conditions

2.4.1 Pre-conditions

2.4.1.1 The Operator is to conduct a systematic review of the mappings between Programme Aims, Programme Intended Learning Outcomes and Generic Level Descriptors at HKQF Level 5 to demonstrate the required academic rigour in ascertaining the alignments between them.

For the fulfilment of the above pre-condition (Para. 4.1.4), the Operator is to submit the following to HKCAAVQ by **27 February 2026**:

- (a) the revised mappings between PAs, PILOs and GLDs;
- (b) full documentation showing how the mappings in (a) are conducted with details showing the justifications for the alignments; and

- (c) relevant QA records showing the process undertaken.

2.4.1.2 The Operator is to demonstrate the rigour of their admission procedures to substantiate that effective quality assurance mechanism with proper documentation is in place within Hong Kong Institute of Technology and Wrexham University and outline the minimum admission requirements clearly for all stakeholders, especially the HKQF Level, minimum volume of study, and discipline(s) of the qualification required for admission.

For the fulfilment of the above pre-condition (Para. 4.2.7), the Operator is to submit the following documents to HKCAAVQ by **27 February 2026**:

- (a) relevant QA records showing the process undertaken by HKIT and WU, including but not limited to full documentation showing scrutiny and decisions on admission during the period of AY2022/23 – AY2025/26, including (i) detailed approval records of the module-by-module mappings for admission such as dated and signed meeting minutes of relevant committee(s)/board(s) in HKIT and WU; (ii) conditional offer letters issued to students and the corresponding email correspondences with students on respective bridging module(s) arrangement; and (iii) details of all bridging modules completed by each student before admission to the Programme;
- (b) revised minimum admission requirements stipulating the HKQF Level, minimum volume of study, and discipline(s) of the qualification required for admission;
- (c) module-by-module mappings between the modules in Year 1 and Year 2 of the revamped home programme and the four programmes below:
 - (i) the proposed revamped *Higher Diploma in Information Technology (Computing)* programme to be offered by Hong Kong Institute of Technology;
 - (ii) a targeted Higher Diploma awarded by other local institution;
 - (iii) a targeted Associate Degree awarded by other local institution;
 - (iv) a targeted recognised qualification at HKQF Level 4 or equivalent in relevant discipline awarded by other recognised institution;

- (d) full documentation showing how the mappings in (c) are conducted, including any supporting evidence, such as assessment of similarity between syllabi of modules in Year 1 and Year 2 of the revamped home programme and those of the sub-degree programmes; and
- (e) details of any bridging modules for graduates of each of the above four programmes, including detailed syllabi of the modules, passing requirements, and timeline for their completion.

2.4.1.3 The Operator is to review and revise as appropriate the learning hours of the Programme, particularly the breakdown in face-to-face contact hours and self-study hours; relevant policy on attendance requirements and mechanism for implementation; and, information on available financial assistance, to ensure that:

- I. the learning hours are academically sound, compliant with applicable requirements on comparability with the home programme, and supported by adequate staffing and physical resources;
- II. relevant policy on attendance requirements is appropriate and a mechanism is in place for effective implementation; and
- III. the information made available to stakeholders, particularly prospective and enrolled students, on financial assistance is accurate and in alignment with the relevant requirements of the financial assistance schemes.

For the fulfilment of the above pre-condition (Para. 4.3.5), the Operator is to submit the following documents to HKCAAVQ by **27 February 2026**:

- (a) a detailed breakdown of face-to-face contact hours, self-study hours, notional learning hours and HKQF credits in alignment with relevant definitions under the HKQF for each module of the Programme;
- (b) documentation showing deliberations and decisions on the allocation of learning hours, including details of activities, staff support provided, maximum class size specific to the types of learning activities for effective learning, relevancy to learning

outcomes, etc., to justify any change in face-to-face contact hours;

- (c) relevant records showing compliance with applicable requirements on comparability with the home programme;
- (d) a consolidated plan to match staffing and physical resources for any revision on the total face-to-face contact hours, including the utilisation rates of the intended teaching venues;
- (e) documentation showing deliberations and decisions on relevant policy on attendance requirements, and details of the mechanism for implementation, including but not limited to the recording of student attendance; and
- (f) documentation showing actions taken, if applicable, regarding accuracy of information on available financial assistance schemes.

2.4.2 Requirement

The Operator is to review and strengthen the mechanism and procedures in quality assurance within the Programme by Hong Kong Institute of Technology and Wrexham University, including contextual adaptation of Wrexham University's learning, teaching and assessment materials, as well as the documentation in relation to admission and programme changes to ensure:

- I. proper and timely documentation to substantiate compliance with external and internal policies and procedures on contextualisation and admission; and
- II. programme changes are properly documented, including (i) having all relevant documents dated and signed by the responsible parties, where applicable, and (ii) timely update of all relevant documents, including *Student Handbook*, *Programme Handbook* and accreditation-related documents.

For the fulfilment of the above requirement (Para. 4.7.6), the Operator is to submit the following to HKCAAVQ by **24 September 2027**:

- (a) a report explaining how the mechanism and procedures in quality assurance, including but not limited to the review mechanism and documentation procedures, of

contextualisation, admission and programme changes have been strengthened with details of the mechanism for implementation and explanation of what changes have been made to the mechanism and/or procedures to ensure the rigour of quality assurance;

- (b) full documentation showing scrutiny and decisions on contextual adaptation of WU's learning, teaching and assessment materials, including the approval records and the corresponding approved sample learning, teaching and assessment materials with the contextual adaptation clearly highlighted from two modules delivered in Hong Kong in AY2026/27;
- (c) full documentation showing scrutiny and decisions on admission, including detailed approval records of the module-by-module mappings for admission in AY2026/27, such as dated and signed meeting minutes of relevant committee(s)/board(s) in HKIT and WU, demonstrating the rigour of the process undertaken with proper and timely documentation;
- (d) updated admission policy, including the percentages of non-standard admission, of the Programme, and relevant QA records showing the process undertaken;
- (e) updated *Student Handbook* and *Programme Handbook* showing the rectification of inconsistent and inaccurate information, as well as relevant QA records showing the process undertaken; and
- (f) an updated Memorandum of Agreement between WU and HKIT reflecting the change of programme title, and any other changes, where applicable.

2.5 Recommendations

HKCAAVQ also offers the following recommendations for the continuous improvement of the Programme.

- 2.5.1 The Operator should continue to keep the workload of the Programme Team and teaching staff under review. (Para. 4.5.3)

- 2.5.2 The Operator should continue to provide adequate training and support to teaching staff, particularly in relation to the changes made to the Programme, including but not limited to the delivery of new modules and additional compulsory tutorials. (Para. 4.5.4)
- 2.6 HKCAAVQ will subsequently satisfy itself on whether the Operator remains competent to achieve the relevant objectives and the Programme continues to meet the standard to achieve the relevant objectives as claimed by the Operator by reference to, amongst other things, the Operator's fulfilment of any conditions and compliance with any restrictions stipulated in this Accreditation Report. For the avoidance of doubt, maintenance of accreditation status is subject to the fulfilment of any condition and compliance with any restriction stipulated in this Accreditation Report. During the validity period, HKCAAVQ may request the Operator to provide evidence, such as admission related information, to demonstrate that the Operator and the Programme continue to comply with the determinations and meet the relevant accreditation standards.

3. INTRODUCTION

- 3.1 Hong Kong Institute of Technology (HKIT), formerly named as the College of Info-Tech before 2003, was set up in 1997 by the International Education and Academic Exchanges Foundation Company Limited (IEAEF). At present, HKIT offers various accredited local certificate, diploma and associate degree programmes leading to awards of HKIT.
- 3.2 Wrexham University (WU), formerly known as Glyndŵr University (GU) before February 2023, was initially established under the 1988 Higher Education Reform Act in 1993 as the North East Wales Institute of Higher Education (NEWI). GU has been granted the university title with taught degree-awarding power by the Privy Council of the United Kingdom (UK) since 2008.
- 3.3 HKIT and WU, jointly as the Operator, commissioned HKCAAVQ to conduct a Learning Programme Re-accreditation (re-LPA) exercise for the BSc (Hons) Computing programme which the programme title and award title will be renamed as BSc (Hons) Computer Science (the Programme) with effect from AY2026/2027. HKCAAVQ formed an expert panel (the Panel) for this exercise (Panel Membership at **Appendix**), and a site visit by the Panel was

conducted at the Operator's campus on 9 and 10 October 2025. In conducting this exercise, HKCAAVQ's *Manual for the Four-stage Quality Assurance Process under HKQF (Version 1.3, April 2025)* was the guiding document for the Operator and the Panel.

4. PANEL'S DELIBERATIONS

The following presents the Panel's deliberations on a range of issues pertinent to its major findings. For aspects of the accreditation standards where no observations are made they are considered to be appropriately addressed by the Operator.

4.1 Programme Objectives and Learning Outcomes

The learning programme must have objectives that address community, education and/or industry needs, with learning outcomes that meet the relevant HKQF standards, for all exit qualifications from the programme.

- 4.1.1 The Programme is hosted by the Faculty of Arts, Computing, and Engineering at WU in the United Kingdom. Following the proposed changes in this re-LPA exercise, final year of the home programme will be offered by the Faculty of Science and Technology at HKIT as a top-up degree programme in Hong Kong.
- 4.1.2 The Operator assured the Panel that the Programme proposed to be delivered in HK is identical to the one to be delivered in the UK. In addition to the change of programme title and award title, the Programme Aims (PAs) and Programme Intended Learning Outcomes (PILOs) of the Programme were proposed to be revamped with effect from AY2026/2027 as follows:

Revamped PAs

The Programme aims to:

- PA1 provide students with a strong foundation in computer science principles, theories, and practical skills
- PA2 provide students with a comprehensive understanding of core computer science concepts, as well as the theoretical elements of computer science
- PA3 offer hands-on experience through lab work, and coding assignments, and foster an understanding of ethical issues

- related to computer science including privacy, security, intellectual property, and social implications of technology
- PA4 enable students to specialize in specific areas of computer science, such as machine learning, artificial intelligence, and data analytics

Revamped PILOs

Upon completion of the Programme, students will attain the following:

- PILOA1 evaluate and conceptualise the discipline of computing as part of the wider computing specialism. Assess advanced concepts, principles and theories relating to software/web design, development, and production and demonstrate them through graduate-level project work
- PILOA2 demonstrate independence, confidence and flexibility in evaluating and applying a range of development tools for the creation of software/web applications and assets for selected computing-based problems
- PILOA3 fully conceptualise differing roles with the context of software/web creation against technical and design skills, and relate them to the wider, team-based skillset industry practice
- PILOA4 fully evaluate the wider social, ethical, economical and sustainability issues as part of graduate-project work and relate computing products within the context of the wider computing and digital industries
- PILOB1 integrate learned theory and techniques with practical experience to analyse problems, identify requirements and propose and critically evaluate alternative solutions for computing-based problems using relevant tools and strategies
- PILOB2 appraise numeracy, literacy, and algebraic competencies a key part of the software/web design, development, art, and production process and demonstrate graduate level competencies through contextualised practical and project work
- PILOB3 rigorously apply research methods to relate and collect facts/ ideas/ elements in an argued case and disseminate information with clear communication to ensure professional practice
- PILOB4 effective self-management in terms of time; ability to conduct research independently or as a team, into legal, professional, moral, social and ethical issues

- PILOC1 using advanced skills and research methods demonstrate advance programming and software systems development skills, frameworks, and engineering principles. Evolve and expand new concepts to incorporate security tools and techniques, working autonomously
- PILOC2 further specialize in a particular area of computer science, and demonstrate in-depth research, analysis, showcasing complex problems in computer science
- PILOC3 further specialise to gain practical skills specific to the chosen specialisation, developing and implementing applications following the results of an in-depth research project
- PILOC4 further specialise to gain advanced competency in software development. Conduct in-depth research and demonstrate advanced analytical and problem-solving skills. Critically evaluate and apply advanced theories, models and techniques, and communication complex ideas effectively both orally and in writing
- PILOD1 have a full conceptualisation of social interaction, communication and diversity within the learning environment and relate that to further employable, computing industry-related practice
- PILOD2 have a full conceptualisation of the use of agile methodologies in the wider computing and digital industries to manage professional teams and projects including being able to demonstrate basic negotiation and leadership skills
- PILOD3 demonstrate the ability to take the perspective of others; articulate the strengths and weaknesses of the suggestions of arguments posed and recognize the underlying agendas and motivations of individuals and groups involved in a given situation
- PILOD4 demonstrate a graduate-level of personal learning by using organisational and time-management skills to set appropriate goals to continue to hone-skills outside the learning environment or in further employment

- 4.1.3 To demonstrate that the intended learning outcomes of the Programme meet the HKQF standard at Level 5, the Operator provided (a) mappings of the existing and revamped sets of PAs and PILOs, (b) mappings of the existing and revamped PILOs and Generic Level Descriptors (GLDs), (c) mapping of the revamped PILOs and the updated modules, (d) mapping of the updated

modules and GLDs, and (e) samples of teaching and learning materials and assessments.

- 4.1.4 The Panel opined that the mappings between the revamped sets of PAs, PILOs and the GLDs were not well aligned. The Operator provided further information with regard to the mappings, but the Panel remained of the view that there is considerable room for improving the clarity and consistency of the mappings between the PAs, PILOs, and the GLDs. The Panel also shared with the Operator the observations and comments with examples on the mappings and suggested that a systematic review shall be conducted to demonstrate the required academic rigour in ascertaining the alignments between the PAs, PILOs and the GLDs. At the site visit, the Operator confirmed that such review will be followed through. In this regard, a condition is stipulated as follows:

Pre-condition

The Operator is to conduct a systematic review of the mappings between Programme Aims, Programme Intended Learning Outcomes and Generic Level Descriptors at HKQF Level 5 to demonstrate the required academic rigour in ascertaining the alignments between them. For the fulfilment of the above pre-condition, the Operator is to submit the following to HKCAAVQ by 27 February 2026:

- (a) the revised mappings between PAs, PILOs and GLDs;
- (b) full documentation showing how the mappings in (a) are conducted with details showing the justifications for the alignments; and
- (c) relevant QA records showing the process undertaken.

4.2 Learner Admission and Selection

The minimum admission requirements of the learning programme must be clearly outlined for staff and prospective learners. These requirements and the learner selection processes must be effective for recruitment of learners with the necessary skills and knowledge to undertake the programme.

- 4.2.1 From the accreditation documents, the responses provided by the Operator and discussions during the meetings with the Programme

Team at the site visit, the Panel noted a number of programme changes, including the discontinuation of Year 1 and Year 2 entry routes, as well as revisions of minimum admission requirements.

- 4.2.2 The Panel reviewed the admission documents of the Programme, including student profiles, and noted that all students of the Programme in the last three academic years were admitted as Year 3 full-time entrants. To demonstrate that each student admitted to Year 3 had the necessary skills and knowledge to undertake the Programme, the Operator provided information on module-by-module mappings on admission of Year 3 entrants in each intake since the last accreditation exercise. From the documents provided, the Panel noted that dated and signed approval records for student admission and credit exemption were yet to be provided. At the site visit, the Programme Team shared with the Panel on how module-by-module mappings had been conducted independently for each student by the Programme Leader. The representatives of the Programme Team and WU explained to the Panel that, though relevant meeting records were not provided, credit exemption and student admission to the Programme had been approved at WU through respective committee. The Panel was given to understand that the approval processes on student admission and credit exemption were in place but was of the view that proper documentation of the rigorousness of the approval processes on admission and module-by-module mapping had yet to be substantiated during this re-LPA exercise.
- 4.2.3 Besides, the Panel found from the admission documents provided by the Operator that some of the students with prior qualifications of recognized AD/HD at HKQF Level 4 in relevant disciplines awarded by local educational institutions were only eligible for credit exemption of the first two years of study of the programme through completion of bridging module(s) before admission to Year 3 of the Programme. The Panel was also given to understand that a number of students had been admitted to Year 3 of the Programme with non-standard qualifications plus completion of bridging module(s). The Panel was of the view that completion of bridging module(s) offered by HKIT as part of the admission processes had not been clearly indicated in the existing admission policy nor the minimum admission requirements approved in the last accreditation exercise. During the site visit, the Operator shared with the Panel the credit exemption with bridging module arrangement, including the module specifications of the bridging modules completed by students, and the sample email and offer letter showing the communication with students regarding the need of completing

specific bridging module(s) before admission to Year 3 of the Programme. The Panel opined that such an arrangement shall be elucidated in the minimum admission requirements and that the current set of admission requirements had yet to clearly outline the credit exemption through the bridging module arrangement for all stakeholders. In this connection, while corresponding internal approval records within HKIT and WU were yet to be provided, the Operator proposed the following set of minimum admission requirements of the Programme by the end of the site visit:

Year 3 entry

- Recognized Associate Degree/Higher Diploma at HKQF Level 4 in relevant disciplines awarded by local educational institutions, or
- Recognized qualification at HKQF Level 4 or equivalent in relevant discipline by recognized educational institutions

Completion of an adequate number of relevant modules in related areas during the study for the qualification as noted above is required so that the applicant is eligible to apply for exemption that amounts to the first two years of study of the programme. If the applicants' completed modules do not amount to the exemption of the first two years of study of the programme, applicants must take bridging modules, which are comparable with those in the Wrexham University's first two years' of modules in terms of curriculum content, level and volume of study before admission to Year 3. This ensures that their prior qualifications plus the bridging modules collectively cover the first two years of the programme.

English language proficiency requirement

- HKDSE Level 3 or above in English Language; or
- The prior qualification plus bridging modules with HKIT (if any) used for admission are taught and assessed in English; or
- Having met WU's English language requirement for bachelor's degree programmes which includes IELTS (Academic) at 6.0 with no individual skill score below 5.5.

- 4.2.4 The Panel also discussed with the Programme Team the relevancy of the existing bridging modules with the updated Year 1 and Year 2 modules of the home programme. The Operator informed the Panel that the bridging modules, which are modules of HKIT's HD programmes, will also be revamped in accordance with the corresponding approval processes and in connection with the latest changes of the Year 1 and Year 2 modules of the home programme.

- 4.2.5 In line with the Government's policy on the yearly quota of non-standard admission for programmes accredited under the Qualifications Framework, for non-local degree programmes operating in the 2023/24 academic year and onwards, the number of non-standard admission (including mature students) should be capped at a maximum of 10% on a programme basis of the actual number of new students of the year. The cap is applied in line with the general expectation on self-financed degree-awarding institutions in safeguarding teaching and learning quality and thereby upholding the credibility and recognition of the qualifications. The percentage is based on the sum of new student numbers across all years of study of the programme.
- 4.2.6 From the accreditation documents, the Panel noted that the maximum number of non-standard admissions stated in the Operator's admission policy is not in line with the latest Government's policy. From the responses of the Operator and discussions with the representatives of HKIT, while the Operator's admission policy is to be updated following its internal quality assurance process, the Panel was given to understand that the Government's policy as stated in Para. 4.2.5 will continue to be strictly followed.
- 4.2.7 In view of the observations and discussions with the representatives of the Programme Team and WU on the lack of proper documentation of student admission and credit exemption as stated in Paras. 4.2.2 and 4.2.3 as well as the upcoming changes in bridging modules highlighted in Para. 4.2.4, the Panel was of the view that further evidence is needed to substantiate that effective quality assurance mechanism with proper documentation for student admission and credit exemption was in place and the minimum admission requirements were clearly outlined for all stakeholders. Therefore, a condition is stipulated as follows:

Pre-condition

The Operator is to demonstrate the rigour of their admission procedures to substantiate that effective quality assurance mechanism with proper documentation is in place within Hong Kong Institute of Technology and Wrexham University and outline the minimum admission requirements clearly for all stakeholders, especially the HKQF Level, minimum volume of study, and discipline(s) of the qualification required for admission.

For the fulfilment of the above pre-condition, the Operator is to submit the following documents to HKCAAVQ by 27 February 2026:

- (a) relevant QA records showing the process undertaken by HKIT and WU, including but not limited to full documentation showing scrutiny and decisions on admission during the period of AY2022/23 – AY2025/26, including (i) detailed approval records of the module-by-module mappings for admission such as dated and signed meeting minutes of relevant committee(s)/board(s) in HKIT and WU; (ii) conditional offer letters issued to students and the corresponding email correspondences with students on respective bridging module(s) arrangement; and (iii) details of all bridging modules completed by each student before admission to the Programme;
- (b) revised minimum admission requirements stipulating the HKQF Level, minimum volume of study, and discipline(s) of the qualification required for admission;
- (c) module-by-module mappings between the modules in Year 1 and Year 2 of the revamped home programme and the four programmes below:
 - (i) the proposed revamped *Higher Diploma in Information Technology (Computing)* programme to be offered by Hong Kong Institute of Technology;
 - (ii) a targeted Higher Diploma awarded by other local institution;
 - (iii) a targeted Associate Degree awarded by other local institution;
 - (iv) a targeted recognised qualification at HKQF Level 4 or equivalent in relevant discipline awarded by other recognised institution;
- (d) full documentation showing how the mappings in (c) are conducted, including any supporting evidence, such as assessment of similarity between syllabi of modules in Year 1 and Year 2 of the revamped home programme and those of the sub-degree programmes; and
- (e) details of any bridging modules for graduates of each of the above four programmes, including detailed syllabi of the modules, passing requirements, and timeline for their completion.

4.3 Programme Structure and Content

The structure and content of the learning programme must be up-to-date, coherent, balanced and integrated to facilitate progression in order to enable learners to achieve the stated learning outcomes and to meet the programme objectives.

- 4.3.1 The Programme, with effect from AY2026/27, is a top-up degree programme with 120 HKQF credits and normal durations of one year for full-time mode and two years for part-time mode. To graduate from the Programme, students are required to pass all five modules totaling 120 HKQF credits.
- 4.3.2 The Panel reviewed the following information and data regarding the structure and content of the Programme:
- (a) Programme specification of the Programme;
 - (b) Module Specifications of all modules of the Programme;
 - (c) Mappings of the modules to PILOs;
 - (d) Mappings of the modules to the GLDs at HKQF Level 5;
 - (e) Samples of teaching materials;
 - (f) Summary results and samples of *Course Evaluation Survey* and *Graduation Survey*; and
 - (g) Records of WU's approval of the Programme to be delivered by HKIT.
- 4.3.3 As informed by the accreditation documents and the responses from the Operator, the revamped programme structure and content following the changes in the home programme will be made effective from AY2026/27. The Operator shared with the Panel during the site visit that the optional tutorials in the home programme will be converted into compulsory tutorial sessions in the delivery of the Programme in HK. The representatives of WU confirmed at the meeting with the Panel at the site visit that the comparability of the Programme in HK with the home programme in the UK will continue to be ensured regardless of the proposed conversion of optional tutorials. The Operator informed the Panel that internal approval processes on the conversion of tutorials and the revised programme structure will be followed through subsequent to the site visit and provided the programme structure of the Programme to be delivered in HK from AY2026/27 with optional tutorials converted into compulsory sessions as set out below:

Modules	Contact Hours			Non-contact Hours (Guided Independent Study)	Notional Learning Hours	HKQF Credits
	Learning and Teaching (e.g. Lecture)	Supervised Learning (e.g. workshops)	Tutorial Sessions			
Deep Learning Implementation	12	12	51	125	200	20
Cryptography and Defensive Systems	12	12	51	125	200	20
Data Analysis and Visualisation	12	12	51	125	200	20
Emergent Technologies	12	12	51	125	200	20
Project	48	0	102	250	400	40
Total	96	48	306	750	1200	120
	450					

4.3.4 During the site visit, the Operator shared with the Panel the importance of the Government's financial subsidy schemes stated in the accreditation documents to current and potential full-time students of the Programme. The Panel noted that the eligibility requirements of such schemes include a minimum of 450 contact hours per year. At the meetings with the Programme Team, the Panel was given to understand that the final contact hours under the proposed programme structure following the conversion of tutorial sessions from optional to compulsory, which internal approval is yet to be sought, will meet the current learning hour requirement of the Government's financial subsidy schemes mentioned in the programme information. The Panel also discussed with the Programme Team the policy on attendance requirements and the mechanism for implementation of such policy in relation to the mentioned financial subsidy schemes.

4.3.5 Following the review of the documents provided by the Operator, along with the observations and discussions with the representatives of HKIT and WU stated in Paras. 4.3.3 and 4.3.4, the Panel was of the view that further evidence is yet to be provided to substantiate that the proposed programme structure of the Programme has undergone the necessary internal approval processes and that the learning hours of the Programme comply

with the learning hour requirement of the financial subsidy schemes stated in the Programme documents. In this connection, a condition is stipulated as follows:

Pre-condition

The Operator is to review and revise as appropriate the learning hours of the Programme, particularly the breakdown in face-to-face contact hours and self-study hours; relevant policy on attendance requirements and mechanism for implementation; and, information on available financial assistance, to ensure that:

- I. the learning hours are academically sound, compliant with applicable requirements on comparability with the home programme, and supported by adequate staffing and physical resources;
- II. relevant policy on attendance requirements is appropriate and a mechanism is in place for effective implementation; and
- III. the information made available to stakeholders, particularly prospective and enrolled students, on financial assistance is accurate and in alignment with the relevant requirements of the financial assistance schemes.

For the fulfilment of the above pre-condition, the Operator is to submit the following documents to HKCAAVQ by **27 February 2026**:

- (a) a detailed breakdown of face-to-face contact hours, self-study hours, notional learning hours and HKQF credits in alignment with relevant definitions under the HKQF for each module of the Programme;
- (b) documentation showing deliberations and decisions on the allocation of learning hours, including details of activities, staff support provided, maximum class size specific to the types of learning activities for effective learning, relevancy to learning outcomes, etc., to justify any change in face-to-face contact hours;
- (c) relevant records showing compliance with applicable requirements on comparability with the home programme;

- (d) a consolidated plan to match staffing and physical resources for any revision on the total face-to-face contact hours, including the utilisation rates of the intended teaching venues;
- (e) documentation showing deliberations and decisions on relevant policy on attendance requirements, and details of the mechanism for implementation, including but not limited to the recording of student attendance; and
- (f) documentation showing actions taken, if applicable, regarding accuracy of information on available financial assistance schemes.

4.4 Learning, Teaching and Assessment

The learning, teaching and assessment activities designed for the learning programme must be effective in delivering the programme content and assessing the attainment of the intended learning outcomes.

- 4.4.1 The Programme employs various learning and teaching activities, including lectures, workshops, small group work and reflections on the learning process. Assessment activities of the modules within the Programme include portfolios, written assignments and in-class tests.
- 4.4.2 The Panel reviewed the following documents in relation to learning, teaching and assessment:
 - (a) Module specifications of all modules of the Programme;
 - (b) Samples of teaching materials of all five modules of the Programme;
 - (c) Samples of marked assessment scripts together with the assessment criteria and feedback to students of five modules namely, *Advanced Mobile Development, Distributed Data and Data Analytics, Future Technologies, IT Project Management*; and, *Project*;
 - (d) External Examiner (EE) reports of the Programme during the validity period;
 - (e) Module grade distribution and graduation rate;
 - (f) Samples of class visit reports during the validity period;
 - (g) *Academic Regulations 2024/25 and 2025/26*;
 - (h) Summary results and samples of *Course Evaluation Survey* during the validity period; and

- (i) Minutes of *Examination Board* and *Student Voice Forum* during the validity period.

4.4.3 Having reviewed the above information, the Panel considered that the assessment tasks of the Programme were properly designed, and the completed assessments demonstrated students' achievement of learning outcomes pitched at HKQF Level 5. Furthermore, the sample work of the students, module grade distributions and graduation rates support the view that the overall performance of students in the Programme was satisfactory.

4.4.4 Notwithstanding, the Panel discussed with the representatives of teaching staff, current students and graduates at the site visit and was given to understand that contextual adaptation of WU's learning, teaching and assessment materials had been carried out as highlighted in the accreditation documents. However, it is noted that relevant evidence has yet to be provided. The Programme Team shared with the Panel the current mechanism and agreed that proper documentation of contextual adaptation shall be reviewed and strengthened. Along with the observations and discussions stated in Paras. 4.7.3, 4.7.4 and 4.7.5, the Panel was of the view that the quality assurance of the Programme, including proper documentation of contextualisation of learning, teaching and assessment materials, is yet to be substantiated with sufficient evidence and shall be reviewed and strengthened. A condition is hence stipulated in Para. 4.7.6.

4.5 **Programme Leadership and Staffing**

The Operator must have adequate programme leader(s), teaching/training and support staff with the qualities, competence, qualifications and experience necessary for effective programme management, i.e. planning, development, delivery and monitoring of the programme. There must be an adequate staff development scheme and activities to ensure that staff are kept updated for the quality delivery of the programme.

4.5.1 The operation of the Programme continues to be managed by the Programme Leader of HKIT and the modules of the Programme continue to be delivered solely by full-time and part-time local teaching staff of HKIT and moderated by full-time staff at WU.

4.5.2 The Operator provided the following information to demonstrate the academic leadership and staffing for the Programme:

- (a) qualifications and experience of the programme leadership staff and teaching staff;
- (b) mapping of modules and staff expertise;
- (c) minimum appointment criteria for teaching the Programme; and
- (d) staffing plan showing the number of teaching staff to support the delivery of the Programme from 2026/27 to 2029/30 based on the proposed teaching staff-to-student ratio for the overall Programme at 1:26.

4.5.3 The Panel was informed of the change in programme leadership during the site visit and observed that there are five full-time teaching staff including the current and new Programme Leaders as well as eight part-time teaching staff for the Programme. Noting that the Programme Leaders and FT teaching staff have concurrent roles at HKIT in institutional management and teaching of other programmes, the Panel **recommended** that the Operator should continue to keep the workload of the Programme Team and teaching staff under review.

4.5.4 On staff development, the Operator provided the Panel with the activities carried out during the validity period and planned for the upcoming academic year. During the meeting with the Programme Team and representatives of teaching staff, the Panel was given to understand that the teaching staff will be kept up-to-date with regard to the revamped programme including introduction of new modules and conversion of optional tutorials. In light of the concurrent duties of full-time teaching staff for the Programme and the engagement of a number of part-time staffs in teaching of the Programme, the Panel **recommended** that the Operator should continue providing adequate training and support to teaching staff, particularly in relation to the changes made to the Programme, including but not limited to the delivery of new modules and additional compulsory tutorials.

4.5.5 Despite the above recommendations for continuous improvement of the Programme, the Panel formed the view that there are adequate programme leadership, teaching staff and staff development for the delivery of the Programme.

4.6 **Learning, Teaching and Enabling Resources/Services**

The Operator must be able to provide learning, teaching and

enabling resources/services that are appropriate and sufficient for the learning, teaching and assessment activities of the learning programme, regardless of location and mode of delivery.

- 4.6.1 On financial resources, the income and expenditure statements from AY2022/23 to AY2024/25 and the budget estimation for AY2026/27 to AY2029/30 of the Programme indicate that the Programme ran a surplus in the past two years and are expected to continue to have a surplus in the coming four years.
- 4.6.2 Regarding physical resources, the Panel toured the facilities at HKIT main campus in Sham Shui Po, and was given presentations on online resources provided by both WU and HKIT. The Panel was also provided with a list of specialised facilities for the modules of the Programme, along with the capacity of the facilities, current and projected utilisation rates, and the major hardware and software provided, as well as library resources supporting the Programme. The Panel was given to understand that the Operator will continue to monitor and review the capacities of the physical resources for the Programme and follow through with the appropriate approval process to include additional campus(es) as delivery site(s) for the Programme when the needs arise.
- 4.6.3 In consideration of the above information and the discussion with relevant stakeholders, the Panel considered that the Operator continues to be able to provide learning, teaching and enabling resources that are appropriate and sufficient for the delivery of the Programme.

4.7 Programme Approval, Review and Quality Assurance

The Operator must monitor and review the development and performance of the learning programme on an on-going basis to ensure that the programme remains current and valid and that the learning outcomes, learning and teaching activities and learner assessments are effective to meet the programme objectives.

- 4.7.1 The Panel reviewed the following information regarding on-going monitoring and review of the Programme:
- (a) quality assurance mechanism in programme development, approval, management and review;
 - (b) Summary results of *Course Evaluation Survey* and *Graduation Survey* during the validity period;

- (c) Minutes of *Examination Board*, *Faculty Board*, *Programme Development Committee* and *Student Voice Forum* during the validity period;
- (d) EE reports of the Programme during the validity period;
- (e) Annual Programme Review reports during the validity period;
- (f) quality assurance manual;
- (g) *Student Handbook* and *Programme Handbook*; and
- (h) Memorandum of Agreement between WU and HKIT for 2024-2028.

4.7.2 The Panel was given to understand that WU as the awarding body continues to retain overall responsibility for the quality and management of the Programme through the academic leadership of Faculty Dean and Academic Link as well as periodic review of the Programme. In the meantime, HKIT remains responsible for the delivery and operational management of the Programme.

4.7.3 Regarding the quality assurance of the contextual adaptation of WU's learning, teaching assessment materials mentioned in the accreditation documents and meetings with representatives of teaching staff as well as student and graduates, with the observation and discussion stated in Para. 4.4.4, the Panel opined that there was a lack of relevant record in the Programme documenting the said contextualisation as well as the corresponding quality assurance processes. The Panel opined that documentation of the considerations given by the responsible parties on how the contextual adaptation is effective in equipping students to address local needs and how comparability of the standards between WU and HKIT has been maintained after the changes made shall be reviewed and strengthened.

4.7.4 Regarding the quality assurance of admission and relevant procedures, in accordance with the observations and discussions with the representatives of the Programme Team and WU on the lack of proper documentation of student admission and credit exemption as stated in Paras. 4.2.2 and 4.2.3, the necessary updating of admission policy elucidated in Para. 4.2.6, as well as the upcoming changes in bridging modules highlighted in Para. 4.2.4, the Panel was of the view that in addition to demonstrating scrutiny and decisions on admission during the period of AY2022/23 – AY2025/26 as stipulated in the condition stated in Para. 4.2.7, the overall mechanism and procedures in quality assurance on the documentation in relation to admission shall also be reviewed and strengthened.

- 4.7.5 In connection with the programme changes during the validity period, such as the change of university title; and, the proposed changes in this re-LPA exercise, such as the change of programme title, the Panel shared with the Operator several dated, inconsistent and misrepresented information found in the accreditation documents and programme documents including the *Student Handbook*, *Programme Handbook* and Memorandum of Agreement between WU and HKIT. The Panel was of the view that the Operator shall ensure programme documents are complete and free of notable inconsistencies and misrepresentations, and with the up-to-date information to facilitate effective exercising of internal and external quality assurance functions.
- 4.7.6 Following the review of the documents provided by the Operator, along with the observations and discussions with the representatives of HKIT and WU stated in Paras. 4.7.3, 4.7.4 and 4.7.5, as well as the observation in Para. 4.4.4, the Panel was of the view that effective quality assurance of the Programme within HKIT and WU has yet to be substantiated with sufficient evidence. Therefore, a condition is stipulated as follows:

Requirement

The Operator is to review and strengthen the mechanism and procedures in quality assurance within the Programme by Hong Kong Institute of Technology and Wrexham University, including contextual adaptation of Wrexham University's learning, teaching and assessment materials, as well as the documentation in relation to admission and programme changes to ensure:

- I. proper and timely documentation to substantiate compliance with external and internal policies and procedures on contextualisation and admission; and
- II. programme changes are properly documented, including (i) having all relevant documents dated and signed by the responsible parties, where applicable, and (ii) timely update of all relevant documents, including *Student Handbook*, *Programme Handbook* and accreditation-related documents.

For the fulfilment of the above requirement, the Operator is to submit the following to HKCAAVQ by **24 September 2027**:

- (a) a report explaining how the mechanism and procedures in quality assurance, including but not limited to the review

mechanism and documentation procedures, of contextualisation, admission and programme changes have been strengthened with details of the mechanism for implementation and explanation of what changes have been made to the mechanism and/or procedures to ensure the rigour of quality assurance;

- (b) full documentation showing scrutiny and decisions on contextual adaptation of WU's learning, teaching and assessment materials, including the approval records and the corresponding approved sample learning, teaching and assessment materials with the contextual adaptation clearly highlighted from two modules delivered in Hong Kong in AY2026/27;
- (c) full documentation showing scrutiny and decisions on admission, including detailed approval records of the module-by-module mappings for admission in AY2026/27, such as dated and signed meeting minutes of relevant committee(s)/board(s) in HKIT and WU, demonstrating the rigour of the process undertaken with proper and timely documentation;
- (d) updated admission policy, including the percentages of non-standard admission, of the Programme, and relevant QA records showing the process undertaken;
- (e) updated *Student Handbook* and *Programme Handbook* showing the rectification of inconsistent and inaccurate information, as well as relevant QA records showing the process undertaken; and
- (f) an updated Memorandum of Agreement between WU and HKIT reflecting the change of programme title, and any other changes, where applicable.

5. IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING THIS ACCREDITATION REPORT

5.1 Variation and withdrawal of this Accreditation Report

- 5.1.1 This Accreditation Report is issued pursuant to section 5 of the AAVQO, and contains HKCAAVQ's substantive determination

regarding the accreditation, including the validity period as well as any conditions and restrictions subject to which the determination is to have effect.

5.1.2 HKCAAVQ may subsequently decide to vary or withdraw this Accreditation Report if it is satisfied that any of the grounds set out in section 5 (2) of the AAVQO apply. This includes where HKCAAVQ is satisfied that the Operator is no longer competent to achieve the relevant objectives and/or the Programme no longer meets the standard to achieve the relevant objectives as claimed by the Operator (whether by reference to the Operator's failure to fulfil any conditions and/or comply with any restrictions stipulated in this Accreditation Report or otherwise) or where at any time during the validity period there has/have been substantial change(s) introduced by the Operator after HKCAAVQ has issued the accreditation report(s) to the Operator and which has/have not been approved by HKCAAVQ. Please refer to the '*Guidance Notes on Substantial Change to Accreditation Status*' in seeking approval for proposed changes. These Guidance Notes can be downloaded from the HKCAAVQ website.

5.1.3 If HKCAAVQ decides to vary or withdraw this Accreditation Report, it will give the Operator notice of such variation or withdrawal pursuant to section 5(4) of the AAVQO.

5.1.4 The accreditation status of Operator and/or Programme will lapse immediately upon the expiry of the validity period or upon the issuance of a notice of withdrawal of this Accreditation Report.

5.2 **Appeals**

5.2.1 If the Operator is aggrieved by the determination made in this Accreditation Report, then pursuant to Part 3 of the AAVQO the Operator has a right of appeal to the Appeal Board. Any appeal must be lodged within 30 days of the receipt of this Accreditation Report.

5.2.2 If the Operator is aggrieved by a decision to vary or withdraw this Accreditation Report, then pursuant to Part 3 of the AAVQO the Operator has a right of appeal to the Appeal Board. Any appeal must be lodged within 30 days of the receipt of the Notice of Withdrawal.

5.2.3 The Operator should be aware that a notice of variation or withdrawal of this Accreditation Report is not itself an accreditation report and the right to appeal against HKCAAVQ's substantive determination regarding accreditation arises only from this Accreditation Report.

5.2.4 Please refer to Cap. 592A (<https://www.elegislation.gov.hk>) for the appeal rules. Details of the appeal procedure are contained in section 13 of the AAVQO and can be accessed from the HKQF website at <https://www.hkqf.gov.hk>.

5.3 **Qualifications Register**

5.3.1 Qualifications accredited by HKCAAVQ are eligible for entry into the Qualifications Register ("QR") at <https://www.hkqr.gov.hk> for recognition under the HKQF. The Operator should apply separately to have their quality-assured qualifications entered into the QR.

5.3.2 Only learners who commence the study of the named accredited learning programme during the validity period and who have graduated with the named qualification listed in the QR will be considered to have acquired a qualification recognised under the HKQF.

**Hong Kong Institute of Technology and
Wrexham University (formerly Glyndwr University)**

Learning Programme Re-accreditation for BSc (Hons) Computing

9 – 10 October 2025

Panel Membership

Panel Chair

Prof Paul BATES
Emeritus Professor
AUSTRALIA

Panel Member and Secretary*

Ms Psyche LIU
Registrar
Academic Accreditation and Assessment
Hong Kong Council for Accreditation of
Academic and Vocational Qualifications
HONG KONG

Panel Members

Prof CHAN Wing Kwong
Associate Professor
Department of Computer Science
City University of Hong Kong
HONG KONG

Prof CHOW Kam Pui
Honorary Associate Professor
School of Computing and Data Science
The University of Hong Kong
HONG KONG

Prof PEI Yu
Associate Professor
Department of Computing
The Hong Kong Polytechnic University
HONG KONG

* The Panel Secretary is also a member of the Accreditation Panel.

