Annex C:

About micro:bit

The micro:bit is a pocket-sized codeable computer with motion detection, a built-in compass and Bluetooth technology. It has various built-in features, like 25 red LED lights that can flash messages, and two programmable buttons that can be used to control games or pause and skip songs on a playlist.
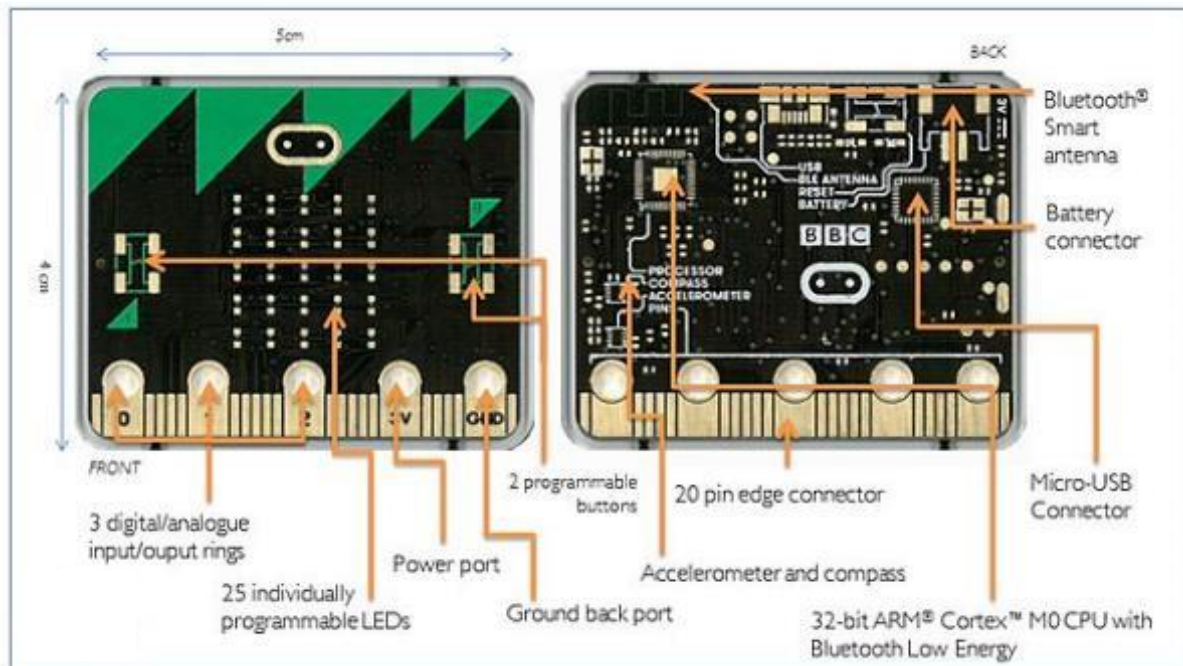

Diagram 1: Front and back views of the micro:bit

The micro:bit is positioned as a standalone, entry-level coding device that allows children to pick it up, plug it into a computer and start creating with it immediately. It is designed to be a starting point to get students interested in coding so they can move onto other, more complex devices like Arduino and Raspberry Pi in future. This helps a child's natural learning progression and gives them even more ways of expressing their creativity.

The micro:bit can be programmed using a simple browser-based introductory programming platform provided by Microsoft, the Blocks Editor (PXT) (see diagram 2 below) or more complex languages like Touch Develop and JavaScript.

Diagram 2: Programming a step tracker using Microsoft's Blocks Editor (PXT).