

Case Study

CoderDojo Scotland

1. Tell us a little bit about your group?

CoderDojo Scotland is a regional group consisting of nine Dojos. Craig Steele, Martin Goodfellow, Claire Quigley formed CoderDojo Scotland after mailing CoderDojo Co-founder James Whelton about starting the first Dojo in Scotland. Now CoderDojo Scotland is an informal regional group with nine Dojos across the country, and more are on the way.

Dojo List:

Glasgow (2 locations)	Edinburgh (3 locations)	Stirling
Moray	Livingston	Inverclyde
Highlands	Dundee	

2. What reasons did you have for starting your Dojo Group?

Myself (Craig), Claire and Martin had the idea and mailed James about starting a Dojo in Scotland at Glasgow Science Centre. We could see that the model we were using for the Glasgow CoderDojo was working well, and we wanted to expand it across Scotland. The Digital Makers Fund became available, which meant that we could set up CoderDojo Scotland as an informal grouping to expand the clubs across the country.

. The autonomy of having the CoderDojo Scotland set up means our local Dojos don't have to go back to the CoderDojo Foundation on all the decision making.

3. How do Dojos become members of your regional group?

We will meet the Dojo champion and help them set up and run their first event. If the Dojo has the same values and we are happy with the quality and the way it's run we will add them to the CoderDojo Scotland website. It is important that Dojos in our group have shared values, we want to make sure young people have the same quality experience across the country. By Sharing our experiences, we can help to ensure the high standard across the country. This includes suggestions for taking bookings, planning sessions, and working with young people.

We share all our CoderDojo Scotland resources on GitHub. For those that are a part of CoderDojo Scotland we provide access to our private Dropbox folder where we have branded, more detailed resources and extra content that is not available on our GitHub.

4. Is your regional group of Dojos set up as a charity, non-profit or other?

Informal group. We are not currently a stand alone company.

- **Please tell us about how your regional group of Dojos became a registered charity, non-profit or other?**

Setting up as a charity is a more complicated process. As a charity there would be more work involved (reporting finances, legal documentation) – at present we do not have the capacity to support this. However, this is something we would consider in the future as CoderDojo Scotland grows.

5. How is your Dojo Group organised?

Four main leaders are Craig, Martin, Claire and Daniel McCafferty. Conversation usually starts with Craig and is discussed with the rest of the group and then branches out to Champions and Mentors within the Scotland community. As a regional body the CoderDojo Scotland team can focus on the growth and support of the CoderDojo community in Scotland. Whereas each Dojo is usually focused on the running of their own club.

- **Funding**

We always try to partner with companies rather than seek direct financial funding where possible. Most of our support comes from in-kind donations (mentor time, venues, some equipment). However, we have had financial support from Digital Makers Fund and the Scottish Government.

- **Grants**

Glasgow Science Centre manages any grants or funding that we are awarded. This means we are not personally responsible for the accounting records – any money received is managed by Glasgow Science Centre (an established charity) who pay for things on behalf of CoderDojo Scotland.

Information provided by CoderDojo Champions Craig Steele and Martin Goodfellow.