**Lesson Summary and Revision Notes: Week 11**

Define What is Computer Ethics.

* Computer Ethics is the practical philosophy concerned with how computing professionals should make decisions regarding professional and social conduct.

What are the three factors of Computer Ethics ?

1) Intellectual property rights(eg: copying of software without the permission of the owner).

2) Privacy issues (eg: hacking or any illegal access to another person’s personal data).

3) Effect of computers on society (eg: job losses, social impacts etc).

Why it is necessary to produce a code of ethics to cover the computing and electonics industries ?

The Code is designed to inspire and guide the ethical conduct of all computing professionals and anyone who uses computing technology in an impactful way. It covers some of these areas:

* **The Public Interest**: A computing professionals should work together for the public good, and let everyone have access to IT, uphold standards and conduct themselves professionally and fairly at all times.
* **Professional Competence and Integrity**: A computing professional should have integrity and show competence, continuously learn and grow and never take on tasks that he or she don’t have the skills and resources to complete.
* **Duty to Relevant Authority**: A computing professional should work with due care and diligence, acting in their clients or company’s best interests at all times. They take personal and collective responsibility for their actions.
* **Duty to the Profession**: A computing professional should use their voice to help promote IT positively to the world. They support their IT colleagues and other members in their growth both personally and professionally.
* **Avoid harm**: A computing professional should mimize the possibility of indirectly or unintentionally harmimg others and to report any signs of system risks that might result in harm.
* **Be honest and trustworthy**:A computing professional should be transparent and provide full disclosure of all system capabilities, limitations, and potential problems to the appropriate parties.
* **Be fair and do not discriminate**: Computing professionals should foster fair participation of all people, including those of underrepresented groups.

Software copyright and privacy

Software is protected by copyright laws in much the same way as music CDs, videos and articles from magazines.

When software is purchased, there are certain rules that must be obeyed:

* It is illegal to make a software copy and sell it or give it away.
* Software cannot be used on a network or used on multiple computers without a multi-use licence.
* It is illegal to use coding from copyrighted software in your own software.
* It is illegal to rent out a software package without permission to do so.

Describe the two main types of software licensing

1) Commercial software

* Commercial software is available to customers for a fee, providing a licence for one genuine copy to be used on a single device, or a multi-use licence for multiple users (eg: Adobe Photoship)

2) Free Software and the Open Source Initiative

* Non-profit organisations that promote the benefits of giving users the freedom to run, copy, change and adapt software (eg:Libre Office Suite).
* Users are given the freedom to run the software, study the program source code and modify it, redistribute copies of the software and code modified by user to friends and family.

Explain what is meant by freeware and shareware

* **Freeware**: software a user can download from the internet free of charge.
  + Once the software has been downloaded, there are no fees associated with using the software (examples include: Adobe Reader, Skype and some media players).
* **Shareware**: software that allows users to try out some software free of charge for a trial period.
  + At the end of the trial period, the author of the software will request that the user pay a fee if you wish to continue using it.
  + Shareware is protected by copyright laws and users must not use the source code in any of their own software without permission.