



GCSE Computer Science

Computer Science is an important subject because it underpins many careers and teaches many life-skills which are invaluable to all.

Who is it for?

GCSE Computer Science is a new and highly recognised qualification that teaches logical and computational thinking through an introduction to computer programming. It is a highly transferrable skill and is sought after by employers due to the problem solving and thinking skills it teaches.

In a highly competitive job market, this course will give you a critical advantage over your peers, demonstrating an ability to create software, solve problems creatively and high level thinking skills.

What will I study?

GCSE Computer Science offers students the opportunity to follow one of the key skills that industry is crying out for – creative problem solving. Through computer programming, students will learn to think logically to solve problems. Students will learn basic computer programming focusing on the language Python. The course also takes students through computational thinking, problem solving, code tracing and applied computing as well as theoretical knowledge of computer science.

How will I study?

You will be taught using a mixture of: teacher-led theory lessons, small, bite-sized projects, individual and group work.

What exams are there?

GCSE Computing has 2 written exams of 1 hour 30 minutes each. Each paper carries 80 marks and each exam is worth 50% towards the final grade. Paper 1 is an assessment on Computational thinking and problem solving on practically based scenarios. Paper 2 is an assessment on theoretical knowledge. Both are a mix of multiple choice, short answer, longer answered and extended response questions.

Non-exam assessment (NEA) is the production of a report over 20 hours, this NEA ensures all students cover two key elements of the specification and cover the design and creation of programmed solution similar to a scenario in the workplace.

Career Information

Candidates achieving GCSE Computer Science have an industry recognised qualification and are ready to go on to employment or further study in Computing at A Level and beyond. In the modern world, the need to understand how to create new systems and programs is increasingly important for a career.

For further information about this course, please see Ms Stone.