

GCSE Computer Science



Career Options

Software Developer
Computer Systems Analyst
IT Manager
Data Security Analyst
Web Developer
Network Engineer

Subject Content

A modern course for a modern world...

Computer Systems (01)

This unit introduces students to the Central Processing Unit (CPU), computer memory and storage. They investigate how and why network are set up and consider system security. Students become familiar with the impact of Computer Science in a global context through the study of the ethical, legal, cultural and environmental concerns associated with Computer Science.

Computational Thinking, algorithms and programming (02)

This unit introduces students to algorithms and programming, learning about programming techniques.

Students undertake programming tasks during their course of study which allows them to develop their skills to design, write, test and refine programs using a high-level programming language. Students are assessed on these skills in component 02.

Assessment Information

Computer Systems (01)

Written exam:

- 50% of the total qualification
- 1 hour 30 minutes.
- 80 marks
- The question paper consists of short and medium answer questions. There is also one 8-mark extended response question. This question will enable students to demonstrate the ability to construct and develop a sustained line of reasoning.

Computational Thinking, algorithms and programming (02)

Written exam:

- 50% of the total qualification
- 1 hour 30 minutes.
- 80 marks
- Section A – assesses students' knowledge and understanding of concepts of Computer Science. Students then apply these to problems in computational terms, where they may use an algorithmic approach.
- Section B - assesses students' Practical Programming skills and their ability to design, write, test and refine programs.
- The question paper will consist of short and medium answer questions.

Why Study...?

Computer Scientists take humanity forward with innovative advancements in technology. You could go on to develop the next generation of gadgets or software programmes which could improve the lives of millions of people. You will develop critical thinking and problem solving skills which can be applied to any subject or career. When creating computer programs you feel a real sense of accomplishment!

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