GCSE Computing

Examination Board: OCR
Specification No: J275

Why choose to study GCSE Computing?

The course will develop critical thinking, analysis and problem-solving skills through the study of computer programming. It will be a fun and interesting way to develop these skills, which can be transferred to other subjects and even applied in day-to-day life. An introduction into the subject of computing for those who may wish to pursue computing at a higher level.

The course offers an academic trip to Florida, USA. This trip is designed to demonstrate the scope and application of technology, from astronaut training at NASA Kennedy Space Centre and lunch with an astronaut, to rollercoaster workshops at Disney. Boys studying GCSE Computing are invited on this trip; selected Physics and Maths classes are also invited.

What will I learn?

The course will give learners a real, in-depth understanding of how computer technology works. Learners will no doubt be familiar with the use of computers and other related technology from their subjects and elsewhere. However, this course will give them an insight into what goes on 'behind the scenes', including computer programming.

Unit A451: Computing Systems and Programming

This unit covers the key areas of computer systems on which the examination will be based.

Unit A452: Practical Investigation

An investigative computer task, which assess the students research skills, technical understanding, analysis of problems solving, historical perspectives and use of technical writing skills.

Unit A453: Programming Project

Students will need to understand standard programming techniques, be able to design a coded solution to a problem, create a solution fully annotating the developed code to explain its function and test their solutions.

How is GCSE Computing assessed?

Unit A451: Computing Systems and Programming

You will be assessed through a 1 hour 30 minutes written paper. This is worth 40% of the total course.

Unit A452: Practical Investigation

A controlled assessment investigative task based on a scenario with a choice of research tasks. This is worth 30% of the total course.

Unit A453: Programming Project

A controlled assessment programming task. Students will have to design, develop and test a solution to a problem within the OCR-set scenario. This is worth 30% of the total course.

Where will GCSE Computing lead?

Course progression	Career opportunities
The course will make an excellent preparation for learners who want to study or work in areas that rely on these skills, especially where they are applied to technical problems.	Engineering ,Financial and Resource Management, Science, Medicine, IT

What do students say about GCSE Computing?

"Computing is really good. I enjoy learning binary and other forms of computer language".

"Computing is wonderful and it is interesting".

"The unit we are doing will help me in my future job".