

# GCSE Computer Science

This is a rigorous and challenging qualification that aims to give you a thorough understanding of computational principles.

It is a high intensity, mathematical and logic-based course that requires a tolerant aptitude and a methodical approach to solving problems. The course is blended to provide both practical and theoretical learning. The most successful students invest their time outside of school hours developing their own knowledge and skills.

This course offers a multitude of progression opportunities including studying computing at level 3, apprenticeships and diplomas in niche areas of computing such as software engineering. Computer science is an evolving field and as a result, the potential progression routes are limitless. Many applications that are now used daily have been created by people studying computer science. Students who complete this course will be equipped with the logical and computational skills necessary to succeed in further education, the workplace and beyond!

## Programme of Study and Assessment (AQA)

Students will have the opportunity to program their own applications whilst developing a greater awareness of the rapidly changing computing field. The content covered is widespread and includes software development, robotics and computer hardware:

- Fundamentals of Algorithms
- Programming
- Data Representation
- Computer Systems
- Computer Networks
- Cyber Security
- Relational Databases and SQL
- Ethical and Legal Issues

There are two written examinations at the end of the course.

- Computational thinking and programming skills (50%)
- Computing concepts (50%)

## Useful links

[GCSE Computer Science](#)