

# GCSE Computer Science (9-1)



## Exam Board:

OCR

## Why choose GCSE Computer Science?

Computer Science gives learners a real, in-depth understanding of how computer technology works. It provides excellent preparation for higher study and employment in Computer Science and develops critical thinking, analysis and problem-solving skills. Students analyse problems in computational terms through practical experience of solving such problems, including designing, writing and debugging programs. The course allows students to think creatively, innovatively, analytically, logically and critically and understand the impacts of digital technology to the individual and to wider society.

### Unit J277/01 – Computer Systems

Computer systems theory based. It will enable candidates the opportunity to study the complete body of knowledge about computer systems. This includes Systems Architecture, Memory, Wired and wireless networks, Network topologies, protocols and layers, System security, System software and Ethical, legal, cultural and environmental concerns. Assessment consists of one written paper which is 1 hour 30 mins. It is worth 50% of the overall GCSE qualification.

### Unit J277/02 – Computational thinking, algorithms and programming

Computational thinking, algorithms and programming is theory based. It will enable candidates the opportunity to study key concepts including Algorithms, Programming techniques, Computational logic, Translators and facilities of languages, and Data representation. Assessment consists of one written paper which is 1 hour 30 mins. It is also worth 50% of the overall GCSE qualification.

## Minimum Entry requirement:

Level 7 in Maths and Computing at the end of Key stage 3

## Method of assessment:

**Computer Systems:** Exam 50%

**Computational thinking, algorithms and programming:** Exam: 50%

## Post 16 Progression:

Level 3 Vocational IT (Cambridge Technical) at Hendon School (Grade B in English and Maths) or AS/A level Computing at Hendon School (Grade B in English and Grade A Maths)

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