WBS – GCSE PREFERENCE INFORMATION 2026 - 2028

GCSE: COMPUTER SCIENCE

Examining Board: OCR

Subject Leader: Mr Jefferies

Teachers: Mr Jefferies

Course Overview:

In GCSE Computer Science, you will learn about how computers work; how sounds and images and other media are represented and stored digitally; cybersecurity and the effect of digital technology on society; and how devices communicate with each other over networks and the internet.

During the course you will also learn to think like a computer scientist, breaking down problems into smaller parts, and writing logical solutions to those problems as computer programs.

There are no prior qualifications required in order for students to enter for a GCSE (9–1) in Computer Science, and your Key Stage 3 CS lessons will have given you some experience of programming, networks and cybersecurity already.

Create the future

Technology is embedded in every aspect of our lives and Computer Science is used to solve many of the world's biggest problems. There has been huge growth in Computing job opportunities over the last 15-20 years, and this is expected to continue as new technologies become available to more and more sectors of industry.

There are very few job sectors now that don't make use of computing skills in some way.

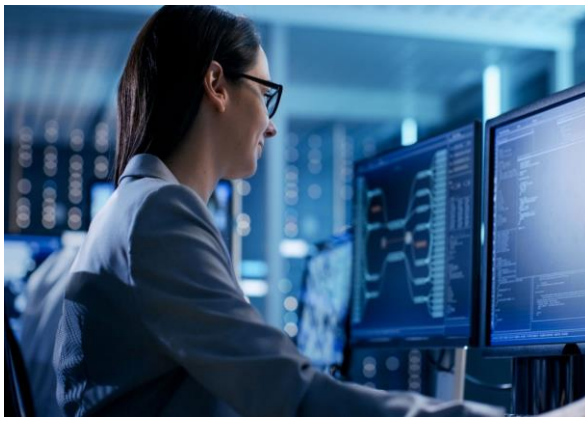
Get ahead of the modern world

The problem-solving skills you will develop as a programmer apply directly to all of the other areas of you school life and beyond.

With skills in Computer Science, you could find yourself a future in the computer games, movies or AI industries, or harnessing computer power to tackle major world problems such as climate change, safety and security of the country, cybersecurity, or poverty and inequality.

Increasingly, our lives involve computers, other electronic devices or apps.

By studying GCSE Computer Science, you can be someone who creates devices and apps to shape the future, instead of being another consumer.



About the Exams:

Two units of work, both assessed by final exams in Year 11.

J277/01 Computer Systems

- 80 marks (50%)
- assessed via exam (1hr 30 mins)

J277/02: Computational thinking, algorithms and programming

- 80 marks (50%)
- Assessed via exam (1hr 30 mins)