GCSE Computer Science

Course content

This course involves working with real-world programming and provides a good understanding of the fundamental principles of computing. You will have a chance to look at computer systems, networks and security, and the use of algorithms in computer programs. You will also evaluate the effectiveness of computer programs / solutions and the ethical, legal, cultural and environmental impact of computer technology in society today and in the future. This GCSE provides an academically challenging specification for students of all ability levels.

How will you be assessed?

There are two externally assessed examinations at the end of Year 11. There is a considerable amount of practical programming to build skills, but it is likely that from 2019 this will no longer be externally assessed.

You will succeed on this course if you:

- Have an interest in computers and how they work

- Enjoy completing practical programming tasks

- Like working independently both offline and online

- Are happy to work hard at analysis and problem solving

- Enjoy being on the edge of your knowledge and like a challenge

Note that this is an academically challenging and demanding course, most suitable for students who have a target grade of 6 or above in maths, and / or an aptitude for languages.