This is an exciting course through which students will learn how digital systems work, how they are designed and programmed, and the fundamental principles of computing. Computer Science equips students to understand modern computing and to create products and solutions. Studying Computer Science opens up a massive world of future possibilities.

Computing is of enormous importance to the national and global economy, and Computer technology continues to advance rapidly. The growth in the use of mobile devices and web-related technologies has exploded, resulting in new challenges for employers and employees. Businesses today require an ever increasing number of technologically competent individuals. This is even more so in the tech development, gaming, mobile and web related industries. The Computer Science GCSE course is the start of the journey

into these worlds.

Exam board: OCR

Consider this course if…

* You want to gain a real, in-depth understanding of how computer technology works. This course will give you an insight into what goes on ‘behind the scenes’. The course includes a large dose of computer programming, which many students find hugely absorbing.
* You are a high achiever in Maths and/or Science.
* The course provides excellent preparation for higher study and employment in the field of computer science. The increasing importance of information technologies means there will be a growing demand for professionals who are qualified in this area.

What will you study?

* At least one programming language. Python is used in many fields from engineering to data science.
* How real world online social media systems manage their data using SQL
* About the parts of a computer and what they do; how computer networks are put together and how they enable electronic communication.

How will you be assessed?

Unit 1 – Computer Systems, 1 hour 30 mins, 50% weighting

Unit 2 – Computational thinking, algorithms and programming, 1 hour 30 mins, 50% weighting

Future ideas?

Computer Science ensures that students become digitally literate – able to use, and express themselves through, information and communication technology – at a level suitable for the future workplace and as active participants in a digital world.

Students who’ve taken a GCSE in Computing and who then progress to study the subject at A Level or university will have a massive advantage over their colleagues who are beginning the subject at these levels