COMPUTER SCIENCE

At the end of Year 9, all students will have completed the Key Stage 3 program of Study.

Only one course is available after this, OCR GCSE Computer Science. This will build upon

the programming skills learnt at KS3 and prepare students for A-Level Computer Science.

OCR GCSE Computer Science

The course will give learners a real, in-depth understanding of how computer technology

works. Learners will no doubt be familiar with the use of computers and other related

technology from their other subjects and elsewhere. However, the course will give them

an insight into what goes on ‘behind the scenes’, including computer programming, which

many learners find absorbing.

• 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. Learners

who’ve taken a GCSE in Computer Science and who then progress to study the subject

at A Level or university will have an advantage over their colleagues who are picking up

the subject at these levels.

• The course will develop critical thinking, analysis and problem-solving skills through the

study of computer programming. For many learners, it’ll be a fun and interesting way

to develop these skills, which can be transferred to other subjects and even applied in

day-to-day life. In this respect, the course will make an excellent preparation for

learners who want to study or work in areas that rely on these skills, especially where

they are applied to technical problems. These areas include engineering, financial and

resource management, science and medicine.