GCSE Computer Science (OCR)

80% Examination

20% Controlled assessment

The GCSE computer science 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 and fun.

It is a practical subject with strong links to Mathematics and Science, and therefore generally appeals to students who enjoy these subjects. It is a very different course to ICT and learners should be aware of these differences when making their option choices. The table below outlines the topics covered

Computer Systems	- System architecture - Memory - Storage - Wired and Wireless networks - Network topologies, protocols and layers - Network security - System Software - Moral, social, legal, cultural and environmental concerns
	Translators and facilities of languages

Computational Thinking, Algorithms and Programming	• Algorithms • High and low level programming • Computational logic • Data representation
Programming Project	• Programming techniques • Design • Development • Effectiveness and efficiency • Technical understanding • Testing, evaluation and conclusion