Computer Science

GCSE

Examination Board: OCR

What will I study?

Technology is ubiquitous in our modern society. Everything from mobile phones. televisions. traffic lights. theme parks. agriculture to sport depend on technology. You need to be prepared for the digital world. The computing syllabus will give you an in-depth understanding of how computer technology works and a look at what goes on 'behind the scenes'. As part of this. a large amount of the course will be spent learning computer programming. Through this study of computer programming. the course will help you develop critical thinking. analysis and problem solving skills. For many. it will be a fun and interesting way to develop these skills, which can be transferred to other subjects. especially mathematics and other sciences. and even applied in day-to-day life. It is a fact that information technologies continue to have a growing importance. This means there will be a bigger demand for professionals who are qualified in this area. If you want to go on to higher study and employment in the field of computer science. you will find that this course provides superb stepping stone. Students who have taken Computing GCSE and who then progress to study the subject at A Level or university will have a sound underpinning knowledge of this area. Computer science is a tough and challenging subject. Within the first few lessons you will dive straight in to computer programming, which you may find challenging but fascinating. The computing science qualification enables you to;

- Develop your understanding of current and emerging technologies, understanding of how they work and apply this knowledge and understanding in a range of contexts;
- Acquire and apply knowledge. some technical skills and an understanding of the use of algorithms in computer programs to solve problems using programming;
- Use your knowledge and understanding of computer technology to become independent and discerning users of IT. able to make informed decisions about its use. and aware of the implications of different technologies;
- Acquire and apply creative and technical skills. knowledge and understanding of IT in a range of contexts: and develop computer programs to solve problems.

How is the course assessed?

The course is made up of 2 written exams and controlled assessment. Programming skills underpins the control assessment element of the course while a thorough understanding of the main parts of a computer is required for the written exam paper. In order to deal with the complexities of the course, in particular the logic skills. you need to be in the top 2 sets Of mathematics. Exceptions can be made for those with good programming experience. in consultation with the Head of Business and Computing. Students need to be resilient and understand they will need to independently solve coding problems.

How will the course help me in the future?

The course is great for anyone who sees themselves with a future in computing. programming. game development. web development or as a mobile phone app developer.

Which member of staff should I contact for more information?

Mr Hughes