

# Computer Science



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<b>Subject Teacher(s)</b>	Les Mugridge, Paul Reed
<b>Course Title</b>	GCSE Computer Science: AQA
<b>Website</b>	<a href="#">AQA</a>   <a href="#">Computer Science</a>   <a href="#">GCSE</a>

## Course Overview

Students studying GCSE Computer Science will be taught:

- How to design and structure efficient and effective programs in Python
- How to debug and test programs
- The fundamentals of data representation
- How computer systems and computer networks function
- The importance of cyber security
- How to design and use databases and SQL
- The ethical, legal and environmental impacts of digital technology on wider society

## Assessment

### Paper 1: Computational thinking and programming skills

This paper assesses: computational thinking, code tracing, problem-solving, programming concepts including the design of effective algorithms and the designing, writing, testing and refining of code.

#### How it's assessed

- Written exam: 2 hours
- 90 marks
- 50% of GCSE

### Paper 2: Computing concepts

This paper assesses: the fundamentals of data representation, computer systems, computer networks, cyber security, databases and SQL and the ethical, legal and environmental impacts of digital technology on wider society.

#### How it's assessed

- Written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes
- 90 marks
- 50% of GCSE

## Additional Information

Computer Science GCSE has a natural progression to further study either on the A Level course in Computer Science or similar courses in colleges. Computer Science and its associated subjects offer an excellent career path in the UK. These areas include engineering, financial and resource management, science and medicine.

Specialist Computer Science courses are available at most universities and colleges, these include: Computer Science, Artificial Intelligence, Robotics, Security, Networking and Hardware Development.