

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

The GCSE Computing course comprises of 3 units. One is Controlled Assessed which means you will complete an assessment on a scenario selected by the exam board which will test your programming skills in Computing. This will take place in front of your teacher in a controlled environment. One of the units is an investigative task, which is based again around a scenario selected by the exam board. The other is theory based; you will therefore be tested on the theme of 'Computer systems and programming.'



UNIT A451:	COMPUTER SYSTEMS AND PROGRAMMING	UNIT A452:	PRACTICAL INVESTIGATION	UNIT A453:	PROGRAMMING PROJECT
✓	You will learn about the fundamentals of computer systems, hardware, software, representation of data in computer systems.	✓	You will undertake an investigative computing task, chosen from a list provided by OCR, Controlled assessment which assesses the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Research ○ Technical understanding ○ Analysis of problem ○ Historical perspective ○ Use of technical writing skills, ○ Recommendations/ evaluation. 	✓	You will need to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understand standard programming techniques • Be able to design a coded solution to a problem including the ability to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Develop suitable algorithms - Design suitable input and output formats - Identify suitable variables and structures - Identify test procedures. • Create and test a coded solution fully annotating the developed code to explain its function.

ASSESSMENTS (Exam Board)

- ✓ Unit A451 is a written exam which is 1 hour and 30 minutes and is worth 40% of your final GCSE.
- ✓ Unit A452 is practical investigation which will be completed as a controlled assessment and is worth 30% of your final GCSE.
- ✓ Unit A453 is a Controlled Assessment; you will have to complete a programming project and this is worth 30% of the GCSE.

WHY SHOULD I TAKE THIS SUBJECT?

The choice is absolutely yours, but here are a few reasons outlining why you should take the subject:

- ✓ If you have enjoyed the programming and control units you have experienced so far in KS3.
- ✓ If you are interested in the building blocks of computing and technology and are interested in how it all works!

POSSIBLE JOB ROUTES

- ✓ Computer Engineer
- ✓ Software engineer
- ✓ Systems analyst/designer
- ✓ Web developer
- ✓ Computer Programmer

WHO CAN I TALK TO?

- ✓ Ms Hashmi (Faculty Leader of Business and Computing)
- ✓ Mrs Nwokolo (Subject Lead for Computing)
- ✓ Mrs McBride (Teacher of ICT)
- ✓ Mrs Eissadi (Teacher of ICT)
- ✓ Mr De Bique (Teacher of Computing)

You can email the department for more information at computing@mayfieldschool.net

USEFUL RESOURCES

- ✓ www.aqa.org.uk
- ✓ www.teach-ict.com
- ✓ www.stackoverflow.com

