

Computer Science

COURSE CODE

AS Level AQA 7516
A Level AQA 7517

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

- Minimum 6 in GCSE Maths compulsory.
- Minimum 6 in GCSE Computer Science if completed, OR
- Prior experience, knowledge and aptitude for programming if GCSE not completed.

WHAT WILL YOU LEARN?

Students study a variety of theory-based units including Fundamentals of Programming, Data Structures, Data Representation and Computer Systems. They will also study Algorithms, Theory of Computation and Databases. Students will develop their practical programming skills and develop their approach to problem solving.

ASSESSMENT

AS Level

- 50% = 1 x On-screen exam (1hr 30 mins) (75 marks)
- 50% = 1 x Written exam (1hr 30 mins) (75 marks)

A Level

- 40% = 1 x On-screen exam (2hr 30 mins) (100 marks)
- 40% = 1 x On-screen exam (2hr 30 mins) (100 marks)
- 20% = Non-examined assessment in practical programming (75 marks)

NEXT STEPS

A Level Computer Science students go on to study a variety of subjects at degree level. Universities and employers actively welcome students who have developed key skills such as programming, problem solving and with a sound understanding of the various computing strands. Specific higher education courses include Software Management, Networks and Communications, Multimedia Computer Science, IT Management and Advanced Programming.

CAREER INFORMATION

Studying A Level Computer Science can be the starting point for a career in the ever-expanding and developing IT and Computing industries. Students who study the subject have gone into Teaching, Hardware Engineering, Software and Program Development, Web and Digital Communications, Network Management and IT Support Services.

EXTRA COSTS

Students are encouraged to purchase a course textbook for around £19 and there may be opportunities to attend an enrichment trip, to enhance their subject knowledge.