



GCSE Computer Science

- CORE COMPULSORY
- NON-QUALIFICATION
- OPTION
- EBACC SUBJECT

Examination board: Pearson Edexcel

Course code: 1CP2

Subject contact: Ms A. George, Key Stage 4 Leader for Computer Science

Course Description

At Thamesmead we teach the Edexcel GCSE Computer Science Qualification.

This consists of two exams worth 50% each. Paper 1 is a written examination and Paper 2 is a practical onscreen assessment.

The main programming language used at key stage 4 is Python, this builds on nicely from the introductory work the students will have completed in year 7, 8 and 9.

Entry Requirements

Students must be comfortable with mental arithmetic and understand basic expressions and formulas.

Key Skills

Writing Programs, Debugging, Testing, Communication, Problem Solving, Arithmetic, Multi-Tasking, Computational Thinking.

Cost

Access to a home computer

Assessment

Component 1: Principles of Computer Science

Written examination: 1 hour and 30 minutes

50% of the qualification (75 marks)

This paper consists of five compulsory questions, each one focuses on one topic area. The questions consist of multiple-choice, short, medium and extended open responses, tabular and diagrammatic items.

Component 2: Application of Computational Thinking

Onscreen examination: 2 hours

50% of the qualification (75 marks)

This practical paper requires students to design, write, test and refine programs in order to solve problems.

Students will complete the assessment onscreen using Python in the Thonny integrated development environment.

Careers

Programmer
Systems Analyst
Cyber Security Consultant
Network Manager
Web Developer
Software Tester
Data Scientist
Software Engineer
AI Research Scientist

Further education opportunities

Apprenticeships, Diplomas, A-Levels and Degrees at college and university are available in a wide variety of careers related to this qualification.

Enrichment and Support

BBC GCSE Bite-Size
Computing, Thonny.org, EdExcel website,
Revisecomputerscience.com,
Csnews.com, Tutorialspoint Python,
YouTube channel: CrashCourse
Computer Science