GCSE Computer Science

AT A GLANCE	Format
	The course consists of two exams and a set of mini projects. The first exam topic is called Computer Systems (1.5 hours 40% of final grade) and will cover the internal working of a computer system and how it can be arranged in a network. The second exam topic is called Computational Thinking (1.5 hours 40% of final grade) and will cover data, programming languages and problem solving. The final 20% of the final grade will be from a set of programming mini projects under controlled conditions.

Success Tips

- Students' planning and organisational skills will really help them to succeed; being methodical in managing their digital assets carefully (images, research notes and program listings) through careful organisation will be essential.
- An interest in the technical side of computers is advantageous as a curiosity to find out more will drive a student through the course.
- Computer Programing requires care and concentration as small errors can prevent a piece of software from working correctly or sometimes from functioning at all.
- Sticking to deadlines will be of utmost importance.
- Preparing for the examinations will require students to make clear notes on the topics and use them to revise before the examination date.
- Students will need to work outside of school time and therefore they must know how to access their files from their own school network area, or transfer files securely.

We would encourage students and parents to look at the specification:

http://www.ocr.org.uk/Images/225975-specification-accredited-gcse-computer-science-j276.pdf