

2. Course overview

Computer Science offers the students the opportunity to explore different areas of Computer Science from how computers work, to issues that occur in relation to security, to the different coding languages students could use. Students will have the opportunity to explore algorithms and coding through the coursework element of the course.

3. Assessment outline

80% Exam (2 x 150 minutes) and 20% coursework

Questions can appear from either unit can appear on either paper.

Unit 1 – Computer Systems

- The characteristics of contemporary processors, input, output and storage devices
- Software and software development
- Exchanging data
- Data types, data structures and algorithms
- Legal, moral, cultural and ethical issues

Unit 2 – Algorithms and programming

- Elements of computational thinking
- Problem solving and programming
- Algorithms to solve problems and standard algorithms

Unit 3 – Coursework

The learner will choose a computing problem to work through according to the guidance in the specification.

- Analysis of the problem
- Design of the solution
- Developing the solution
- Evaluation

4. Entry requirements

A grade 6 in Maths or Computer Science.

5. Career pathways.

There are a lot of different career opportunities in the field of Banking, Computing, Technology, Politics, Engineering and Physics. Due to the nature of Computer Science, it will allow you to work in most businesses.