Great in name, greatest together

GreatSankey
High School

GCSE
Computer Science

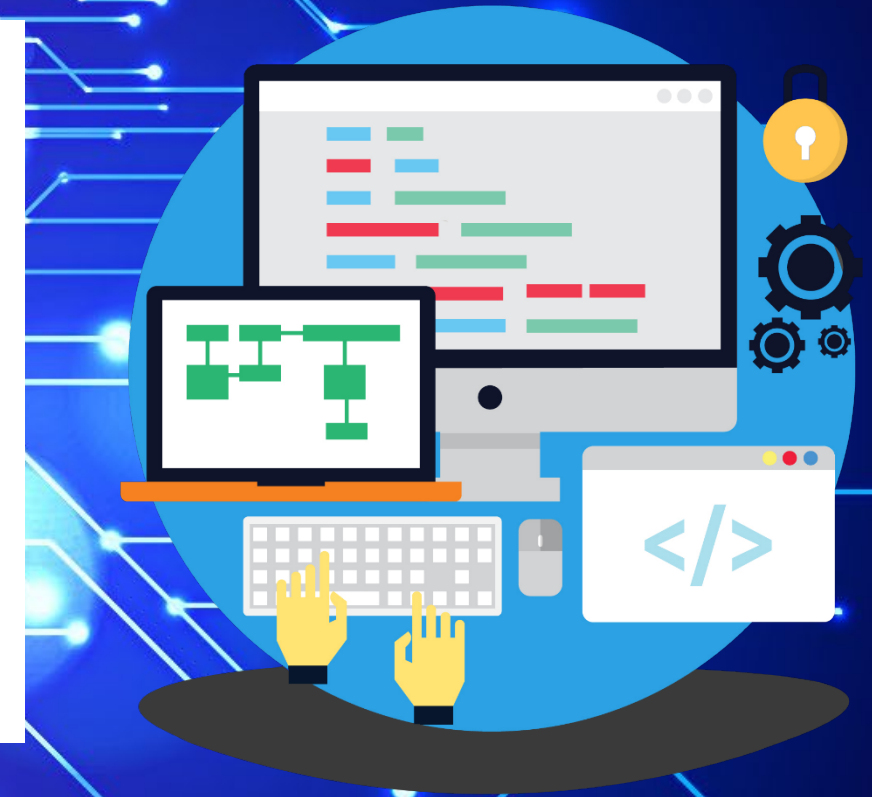# Why choose GCSE Computer Science?

This exciting GCSE gives you an excellent opportunity to investigate how computers work and how they are used and to develop computer programming and problem solving skills.

GCSE Computer Science also counts as an EBacc subject.

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The course will help you learn about critical thinking, analysis and problem solving.

We hope you will find it fun and an interesting way to develop these skills, which can also be transferred to other subjects and even applied to day-to-day life.

How could it help with your future?

If you take GCSE Computer Science and then go on the study the subject at A Level or university, you will have an advantage over fellow students who are picking up the subject at these higher levels.

The increasing importance of information technologies means there will be a growing demand for professionals who are qualified in this field.

This course is also useful if you are thinking of a career in engineering, financial, resource management, science and medicine.

Course Structure

Component 1 – Computer Systems	Component 2 – Computational thinking, algorithms and programming	Practical Programming
50%	50%	Formal requirement
Written paper	Written paper	Not assessed

You cannot use a calculator in the exam

Component 1: What will you learn?

Topics include:

Systems architecture
Memory and storage
Computer networks, connections and protocols
Network security
Systems software
Ethical, legal, cultural and environmental impacts of digital technology

Component 2:
What will you learn?

Topics include:

Algorithms
Programming fundamentals
Producing robust programs
Boolean logic
Programming languages and Integrated Development Environments

Practical Programming: What will you learn?

Practical programming is a formal requirement of the GCSE.

You will use a text based programming language at this stage such as Python.

By doing this we hope that you will develop your knowledge of these areas through actually designing and coding solutions to problems.

This will support you with your Component 2 exam.

Examples of work

Theory lessons will be delivered using a variety of resources:

Multimedia presentations
Worksheets
Interactive websites
Online revision guides
Online video tutorials

All resources will be available through Microsoft Teams/OneNote classbook for you to access and revise from home as well as school.

PEER TEACHING

Where can Computer Science lead?

Further education:

A Level Computer Science offered at Barrow Hall College
Cambridge Technical IT offered at Barrow Hall College
Computer Science or similar courses at university

Job prospects:

Software developer
Web designer
Junior programmer
Apprenticeships with companies such as Intel, Microsoft,
Barclays, Cisco and so many more