Why study this course?

- The GCSE in Computer Science will give students a real in depth understanding of how computer technology works. It offers an insight into what goes on behind the scenes of computer programming which many students find absorbing.
- In addition this course develops a range of critical thinking skills, analysis and problem solving which can be transferred to further learning and to everyday life.
- OCR have also teamed up with partners such as Raspberry Pie and Computing at School to invigorate the curriculum.
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Units of study in Year 10 and Year 11

Units	OCR Computer Science (J276)	Assessment Method for one 1 GCSE grade
1	Computer Systems	1 hour 30 mins written examination 40%
2	Computational Thinking, algorithms and programming	1 hour 30 mins written examination 40%
3	Programming Project	20% Controlled Assessment set by OCR but this is subject to change by the exam board each year.

What do I need to be able to join the course?

- The course is open to students who we expect to achieve a minimum of a grade 5 or 6 in GCSE Maths. This is due to the technical requirements of computer programming.

How is the course assessed?

- Students will study three units.
- There are two examinations totalling 80% of the final grade.
- There is one controlled assessment which makes up 20% of the final grade. Controlled assessment is subject to change each year by the exam board!

What styles of teaching and learning will be used?

- A variety of teaching styles will be used to enable you to complete the units.
- You will be expected to work independently and as part of a team at times.
- You will research and learn about computing through possible visits, group work, outside speakers and internet research.

Pathways

- Students who study Computer Science at GCSE can go on to study ICT in the sixth form at Astley.
- Many students have then gone on to successfully gain ICT places at university or apprenticeships before embarking on their own careers.

For further information see your ICT teacher or Mr Armstrong.