



Subject/Qualification	Pearson Edexcel GCSE (9 - 1) in Computer Science (1CP2)
What is the course about?	The course is in two parts. Firstly, computer theory based on the principles of computer science. During this part of the course students will learn about; computational thinking, data, computers, networks, and also issue and impact of computing technologies. The second part is the application of computational thinking which is fast becoming a fundamental skill of the 21st Century. Here students will learn about algorithms, how to decompose and analyse problems and how to then read, write and refine programs.
How is it assessed?	The qualification has a straightforward structure with six comprehensive topic areas, assessed through two externally-examined papers. One of these is a written paper focused on computational thinking, data, computers, networks, and issues and impact of computing in the world today. The other is a practical onscreen assessment, which focuses on the ability to analyse and solve problems by designing, writing, testing and refining programs.
What can you do with this qualification?	Study of the qualification as part of Key Stage 4 learning will help learners to make more informed choices for further progression either generally or in this sector. The choices that a learner can make post-16 will depend on their overall level of attainment and their performance in the qualification. The GCSE Computer Science course provides the skills, knowledge and understanding for students to progress to: <ul data-bbox="667 815 2040 882" style="list-style-type: none">• Level 3 qualifications, such as GCE A Level Computing or BTEC National in ICT or Computing• Employment with the IT industry or related industries where the skills acquired during this course are required.
Is there a main selling point?	It will provide students with a range of transferable skills which will facilitate personal growth and foster cross curriculum links in areas such as Maths, Science and Design and Technology. Computer Science is an academic subject and skills such as problem solving and analytical thinking will all be refined and explored as students' progress through the learning and assessment programme.
What are the pre-course requirements?	Academically, students will be performing well on their progression pathways in particular Science, English and Maths. Students will need to have an interest in the subject and will also be able to present work in a variety of ways and show the ability to read around the subject to gain knowledge. https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-gcses/computer-science-2020.html to learn more about the qualification.
What other subject(s) does it combine well with?	The following subjects combine would combine well and complement the course: <ul data-bbox="667 1289 969 1388" style="list-style-type: none">• Mathematics• Physics• Design & Technology