



Northampton International Academy

Computer Science Curriculum Overview



Why Teach Computer Science?

We believe that Computer Science is a vital subject for pupils to learn within the modern world, where computing and technology are embedded in everyday life. By learning Computer Science learners will study: -

- How computers work
- How to use key programs to present and share work
- How they are programmed
- How to recognise online dangers and stay safe within the online world
- Understand how digital technology is vital for modern careers
- Computational thinking and problem-solving skills they can use in many areas
- Understand the impact ethical, morally, socially and environmentally and the laws which are in place to protect intellectual property and society

Substantive Big Ideas:

Curriculum maps detail the sequencing of substantive knowledge from Computer Science to enable pupils to build schemata of important concepts over time through 4 'big ideas'.

Computer Systems and Networks

Programming

Data Representation

Creative Skills

Disciplinary Big ideas

These core aspects of disciplinary knowledge are used to strengthen and develop substantive knowledge and underpin our common teaching approaches.

Exploration & Analysis



Planning & Time Management



Presentation Skills & Literacy



Decision Making & Creative Application



Research Skills & Why Teach Computer Science? Numeracy



Critical Thinking



E - Safety

ICT Literacy

Learning for Life

Employability Skills

Learning to program builds characteristics such as collaboration, communication, creativity, critical thinking and resilience. Additionally, this subject develops numeracy and literacy, problem solving, and the ability to analyse and evaluate.

Linking the curriculum to careers

Careers in computing, engineering, IT, data management and security.

Examples of qualification pathways

At KS4 we offer GCSE Computer Science and at KS5 we offer A level Computer Science. The Computer Science GCSE progresses naturally to the Computer Science A level or Professional qualifications such as CCNA, which in turn can lead to further study at degree level.



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Computer Science Curriculum Map – Topics by Term



Computer Systems & Networks		Programming		Creative Skills		Data Representation			
Year 7		Year 8		Year 9		Year 10		Year 11	
Autumn 1	Collaborating online respectfully	Computer Systems	Representation – Going Audio		System Architecture.	Programming Language and IDE's			
	Collaborating online respectfully	Representations – from clay to silicon	Representation - Going Audio		Memory & Storage	Networks & Network Security			
Spring 1	Programming essentials SCRATCH	Vector Graphics	Representation - Going Audio 1		Boolean Logic	Producing robust programs			
	Programming essentials SCRATCH	Mobile app development	Python with sequence		Systems Software	Ethical, Legal, Cultural and Environmental			
Summer 1	Modelling data	Developing the web	Python with sequence		Algorithms	Revision			
	Modelling data	Python Programming	Python with sequence		Programming fundamentals	N/A			

Computer Systems & Networks		Programming	Creative Skills	Data Representation
Year 12			Year 13	
Autumn 1	Components of a CPU Computational Thinking		System Software	
			Programming project	
Autumn 2	Data Types		Exchanging Data	
	Software Development		Programming project	
Spring 1	Data Structure		Networks and web technologies	
	Programming Techniques		Programming project	
Spring 2	Data and Boolean Algebra		Legal, Moral, Ethical and Cultural Issues	
	Algorithms		Revision	
Summer 1	Boolean Algebra.		Revision	
	Mini Programming project			
Summer 2	Revision		Exams	
	Programming project			