

COMPUTING

PLEASE CONSULT: Mrs C House

TITLE OF SYLLABUS: Computing

QUALIFICATION: GCSE

GRADE RANGE: 1 - 9

WEIGHTING OF ASSESSMENT:

CONTROLLED ASSESSMENT: 20%

EXAMINATION: 80%

PREVIOUS EXAMINATION RESULTS: 2015 - 21%, 2014 - 19%

Course Description:

This course will give students an in-depth understanding of how computer technology works. Computing focuses on what goes on 'behind the scenes' in the world of computers. Topics such as how a PC works, why software does what it does, how networks are designed and maintained are some of the areas covered.

The course seeks to develop critical thinking, analysis and high level problem solving skills through the study of computer programming. For this element students will use Python.

Assessment comprises of two exams and a controlled assessment. The controlled assessment consists of a programming project set by the examination board (20%). The exams will be sat at the end of the course and are worth 80%.

Although this course is open to all, it is strongly recommended that students are targeted at least a **C for Maths at GCSE**. If this option is being considered your child should speak to Mrs House who can liaise with the Mathematics department regarding suitability.

Topics for Study:

- Networking;
- Programming;
- Logic;
- Binary;
- Databases;
- Website Design;
- Hardware;
- Software.

Homework:

Homework is set in line with the school homework policy.

Resources and equipment needed:

In addition to the standard equipment required, students would benefit from access to ICT equipment and a memory stick to store work on which would be useful for homework tasks.

Careers and Further Educational Opportunities:

Students who succeed in this subject will be well placed to participate and succeed in any ICT/Computing based course at college. Skills will be useful for careers in programming, ICT, web development, game development, engineering, business/finance, science and medicine.