Y11 Parents' Evening – Computer Science GCSE Information Sheet

OCR GCSE: Computer Science Specification: https://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/gcse/computer-science-j277-from-2020/specification-at-a-glance/

Examination Information:

GCSE Computer Science is assessed through two written exams. No changes have been made to this year's exams, although a list of expected content will be published in February to allow more focused revision.

Paper 1: Computer Systems – 1hr 30mins (50% of GCSE). This paper contains a range of questions usually between 2 and 8 marks, including some 'tick-box'; some short and some extended response questions. The paper assesses students' knowledge of: Systems Architecture; Memory and Storage; Computer Networks; Network Security; Systems Software; and Ethical, Legal, Cultural & Environmental Impacts.

Paper 2 Computational Thinking, Algorithms and Programming – 1hr 30 mins (50% of GCSE). This paper assesses students' knowledge of: Algorithms; Programming Fundamentals; Producing Robust Programs; Boolean Logic and Programming Languages and IDEs. It carries the same format as Paper 1 with the additional requirement that students will need to answer Questions in section B using either OCR Exam Reference Language OR Python.

How you can support your child:

We have provided each student with a free Knowledge Organiser, which covers the complete specification and includes activities and mini tests. The Knowledge Organiser also highlights all technical vocabulary, which is crucial when writing accurate and precise answers.

Active revision should always be encouraged with students involved in actively recalling the key knowledge; this could be through the production and use of flash-cards, online revision platforms such as Quizlet or mindmaps.app, or being quizzed by a partner; the key is to be actively engaged in the exercise.

Key Websites:

www.cambridgegcsecomputing.org/ - Interactive revision written by the exam board.

www.student.craigndave.org/gcse-ocr-j277-computer-science-videos - Comprehensive videos covering each specification point.

www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize - good for subject knowledge and explanations.

Myvle:

All lessons and resources from OCR are available to students on Myvle –2021-22 Computer Science GCSE J277. It is important that if students are away from school that they catch up on the lessons that they have missed.

If you have any queries at any time please do not hesitate to contact the Computer Science and ICT Department via the school or via email: info@ladymanners.derbyshire.sch.uk