

Introduction

The specification for computer science in a “normal” year comprises of 5 units which together count towards the overall award of the Computer science GCE. Their weighting is as follows:

Unit 1: Fundamentals of Computer Science – this is a written examination of 2 hours,

Unit 2: Practical Programming to Solve Problems – this is a practical examination (with written components), completed in a computer suite on site during a 2 hour session

Unit 3: Programming and System Development – this is a written examination of 2 hours

Unit 4: Computer Architecture, Data, Communication and Applications – this is a written examination of 2 hours

Unit 5: Programmed Solutions to a Problem – this is a non-exam assessment (NEA) completed in controlled conditions during a 72 hour guided window

For AS CS, students will only complete unit 1 and unit 2. These units can be cashed in for the AS qualification.

In June 2020 WJEC announced changes to the course due to the Covid-19 pandemic. This has been reflected in the content that has been taught to year 12 and is reflected in the assessment points shown below.

Sources of evidence for Centre Determined Grades in Computer science

Assessment point 1 = Was based on a cumulative score for unit 1 past paper based mini-mock assessments. These papers are covered 3 topics at a time, with a revision task and then a formal assessment.

Assessment point 2 = was a based-on performance in unit 2 past paper scenario completion. Unit 2 skills development is a focal point during early year 12, as the skills transfer over to the unit 5 project, so should be embedded ready for expected unit 5 project start towards the end of year 12.

Assessment point 3 = based again on unit 1 topic coverage and the completion of past paper based mini mock exam(s)

Assessment point 4 = based again on completion of unit 32 past paper scenarios and / or improvement to previously completed scenarios following feedback

Assessment point 5 = will involve formal assessment made of all topics covered this year and will be completed formally, in class and under high level of control. This assessment will form a large part of the final determined grade

AP5 to be completed Wb 19th April 2021

Assessment point 6 = will be a formal unit 2 past paper scenario. The assessment will be completed in lesson time and under high level of control. The assessment will make up a large portion of the final determined grade

AP6 to be completed Wb 10th May 2021

Class work = A range of knowledge and skills are demonstrated by students in lessons Computer science through their performance in low stakes summative assessment which includes recall tests, quizzes, verbal answers to question, small tasks carried out that are not necessarily graded or levelled, longer independent learning tasks and other low stakes tests such as use of online resources.

Non-Examined Assessment = N/A for AS CS