

Introduction

The specification for computer science in a “normal” year comprises of 3 units which together count towards the overall award of the Computer science GCSE. Their weighting is as follows:

Unit 1: Understanding Computer Science – this is a written examination of 1 hour 45 minutes

Unit 2: Computational Thinking and Programming – this is a practical examination (with written components), completed in a computer suite on site during a 2 hour session

Unit 3: Software Development – this is a non-exam assessment (NEA) completed in controlled conditions during a 20 hour window

In June 2020 WJEC announced changes to the course due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Removing the unit 2 NEA fully from the specification for the current cohort This has been reflected in the content that has been taught to year 11 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 level of performance in unit 2 past paper scenarios to date. Tasks assessed included HTML and Java programming (Greenfoot environment) tasks. Again, like AP2, these tasks were completed both during lesson time in school and either as homework or remotely during lockdown periods.

Assessment point 2 = Was a based on comparative performance in unit 1 EQP (exam question practice) assignment tasks – completed in class time or on Teams during lockdown – Vs. performance in the unit 1 mock exam sat just before the Christmas break. The best score from both measures was used as the allocated AP grade

Assessment point 3 = A series of multiple choice online Socrative quizzes covering various topics in the course specification. This was timed and monitored by the teacher under **low control**. *Unlimited number of attempts allowed within quiz timeframe in lesson / session.*

Assessment point 4 = Standardised assessment materials provided by WJEC to assess all covered content in unit 1, this will be split between the past two WJEC approved past papers. The SAM paper released in 2017 and the exam paper in 2019. This assessment will be completed over 3 lessons under **high control**. AP to be completed Wb 12th April 2021

Assessment point 5 = Will see a re-visiting to HTML and Java past paper questions, allowing for additional revision and skill practise time and then formal assessment. *Skill revision sessions will make use of older past paper scenarios and be **low control** involving teacher driven demonstrations and progress. Once practise sessions are complete, formal assessment will begin making use of past exam scenarios under **high control** measures.*

AP5 to be completed Wb 3rd May 2021

Assessment point 6 = Will involve formal assessment of additional unit 2 topic content including; algorithms and assembly language. *Revision of topic content will again be provided in teacher led group-*

*based sessions in lesson time under **low control**. Once revision is complete, formal assessment will be conducted under **high control** measures using materials from past exam papers.*

AP6 to be completed Wb 24th 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 = NEA cancelled for this cohort