

Curriculum Intent:

The Computer Science curriculum at Northampton Academy looks to inspire and engage students in the different areas of using technology. In year 10, students have chosen this subject as a GCSE option. We follow the Edexcel GCSE specification which includes topics on data representation, hardware and software, networks, issues and impact and programming concepts. Throughout the 2 years studying this GCSE, we intend to provide the students not only with skills to be able to complete the written and computer assessment in the summer but also with knowledge of different careers and pathways they can take using their computing skills.

'Why This, Why Now?'

- Each term focuses on a new topic as well as having one lesson a week where students learn programming skills. Having this programming lesson each week allows students to practice and learn programming skills from the very start which is necessary as it is the most challenging aspect of the GCSE.
- As the topics are quite different and don't interlink particularly in any way, we teach the theory aspects in order of how they appear in the specification in year 10 into year 11:
 - o Data representation
 - Hardware and software
 - Networks
 - Issues and impact
 - Algorithms





The Medium Term Planning document below is designed to show the journey that every student takes through our curriculum. Some elements of the curriculum may be taught over several lessons, others in a single lesson.

Computer Science	Year 10 – Half Term 1			
Topic	Content	Formative Assessments?	Link(s) to an example lesson	
	Binary and binary conversion Binary addition Programming: variables, constants, data types Twos complement Programming: input and output Types of errors Binary shifts Hexadecimal Programming: arithmetic operators	Mini whiteboards Bell work recap questions Home learning quizzes End of topic test	https://classroom.thenational.academy/lessons/binary-maths-68rkae https://classroom.thenational.academy/lessons/variables-60w3je?from_query=programming+languages https://classroom.thenational.academy/lessons/binary-maths-68rkae https://classroom.thenational.academy/lessons/hexadecimal-75gkcr	
Data representation and programming basics	Representation of text Representation of images Programming: strings		https://classroom.thenational.academy/lessons/representing-text-chk66t https://classroom.thenational.academy/lessons/representing-bitmap-images-6rr36e https://classroom.thenational.academy/lessons/string-handling-i-6wtkac	
	Representation of sound Programming: strings		https://classroom.thenational.academy/lessons/representing- sound-6mt3ed	
	Data storage Catchup and Recap lessons, practice exam questions		https://classroom.thenational.academy/lessons/units-of- measurement-6rv36d	
	Programming: strings and formatting			
	Compression Programming practice			
	Key Words: binary, denary, computer, input, output, hexadecimal, twos complement, images, sound, resolution, sampling			
	Career focus - Task 1 Machine learning engineer & Task 2 Forensic Computer analyst			



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Topic C	Content	Formative Assessments?	Link(s) to an example lesson	
W	What is a computer?		https://classroom.thenational.academy/lessons/computer-	
St	stored program concept		systems-and-system-software-cmuk4r	
	Programming: selection and relational operators		https://classroom.thenational.academy/lessons/main-	
P			<u>memory-cthkjd</u>	
0			https://classroom.thenational.academy/units/programming-	
			<u>2-selection-cbc4</u>	
Fe	Fetch execute cycle		https://classroom.thenational.academy/lessons/the-fde-	
			cycle-68w3ct	
P	Programming: selection		https://classroom.thenational.academy/units/programming-	
			<u>2-selection-cbc4</u>	
		Mini whiteboards Bell work recap questions Home learning quizzes End of topic test	https://classroom.thenational.academy/lessons/secondary-	
			storage-6cv3jt	
Computers and Se	Secondary storage Programming: nested if statements		https://classroom.thenational.academy/lessons/selecting-a-	
rogramming with Pi			storage-device-74v64c	
selection and			https://classroom.thenational.academy/units/programming-	
iteration			2-selection-cbc4	
E	Embedded systems		https://classroom.thenational.academy/lessons/computer-	
P	Programming: if statements and validation		systems-and-system-software-cmuk4r	
T	he operating system		https://classroom.thenational.academy/lessons/computer-	
P	Programming: if statements and validation		systems-and-system-software-cmuk4r	
11	Utility software		https://classroom.thenational.academy/lessons/computer-	
U			systems-and-system-software-cmuk4r	
D	Programming: iteration – while loops		https://classroom.thenational.academy/lessons/while-	
Pi			loops-6gt68r?from_query=while+loops	
R	Robust software		https://classroom.thenational.academy/lessons/computer-	
P	Programming: iteration – while loops		systems-and-system-software-cmuk4r	
K	Key Words: selection, CPU, RAM, ROM OS, Secondary storage, magnetic, optical, solid state, HLL, compiler, interpreters, translators, stored			
p	program concept			
C	Careers-Focus: Task 3 Smash that intervie	w & Task 4 Hobbies and career	rs	
pı	program concept			

Summative Assessment:





Pupil Mid-Year Assessments will take place at the end of half term 2. These will cover all content taught in the first 2 half terms. This assessment will inform pupil Rank Order in the subject.

Computer Science	Year 10 – Half Term 3			
Topic	Content	Formative Assessments?	Link(s) to an example lesson	
•		Mini whiteboards Bell work recap questions Home learning quizzes	https://classroom.thenational.academy/units/programming-3-iteration-2e20 https://classroom.thenational.academy/units/programming-3-iteration-2e20 https://classroom.thenational.academy/lessons/what-arenetworks-70r6cd https://classroom.thenational.academy/units/programming-3-iteration-2e20	
	Data transmission		https://classroom.thenational.academy/lessons/network- speed-and-performance-c8r38t	
	Programming: 1D arrays		https://classroom.thenational.academy/lessons/arrays-and-lists-6tjk8t	
	The internet and protocols		https://classroom.thenational.academy/lessons/the-ip-	
	Programming: 1D arrays		suite-and-packet-switching-6rrp6d	
	Key Words: network, topology, encryption, protocol, internet, IP, packet switching, ethical hacking			
	Careers Focus: Task 5 Meet the team and Task 6 Green Careers			

Computer Science	Year 10 – Half Term 4		
Topic	Content	Formative Assessments?	Link(s) to an example lesson





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	Identifying vulnerabilities Programming: for loops and ID arrays		https://classroom.thenational.academy/units/impacts- on-society-fb09
	Encryption Programming: 1D arrays and formatting	Mini whiteboards Bell work recap questions Home learning quizzes	https://classroom.thenational.academy/units/impacts- on-society-fb09
Issues and Impact and programming with arrays	Environmental issues Programming: 1D arrays and formatting		https://classroom.thenational.academy/units/impacts- on-society-fb09
	Ethical and legal issues Programming: 1D arrays and formatting		
	Al and Algorithmic bias Programming practice		
	Key Words: impact, ethics, moral, legal, copyright, patents, algorithmic bias, Al		
	Careers Focus: Task 7 Fastest growing jobs	and Task 8 Apprenticeship	

Computer Science	Year 10 – Half Term 5		
Topic	Content	Formative Assessments?	Link(s) to an example lesson





Summative Assessment:

Pupil End of Year Assessments will take place at the start of half term 6. These will cover all content taught in the first 5 half terms. This assessment will inform pupil Rank Order in the subject. As well as the content listed below, there is an expectation that staff will work with pupils to improve knowledge in areas of weakness identified in the summative assessments. This may include in school and out of school intervention, and collaborative and independent study.





Computer Science	Year 10 – Half Term 6		
Topic	Content	Formative Assessments?	Link(s) to an example lesson
Flowcharts and Programming with text files	The purpose of algorithms Drawing flowcharts Reading text files Drawing flowcharts Reading text files Reading flowcharts Reading text files Reading flowcharts Programming with flowcharts Writing to text files Programming with flowcharts Writing to text files Flowchart practice Text files practice Key Words: read, write, text file, com	Mini whiteboards Bell work recap questions Home learning quizzes ma separated, strip, split, records, field	https://classroom.thenational.academy/lessons/flowcharts cct3gt?from_query=flowhcarts https://classroom.thenational.academy/lessons/reading- text-files-70vp4d?from_query=programming+text+files https://classroom.thenational.academy/lessons/trace- tables-crtpar?from_query=trace+tables https://classroom.thenational.academy/lessons/writing-to- text-files-6nhp6r?from_query=programming+text+files

