

ICT GCSE

The specification for the GCSE ICT is arranged in units. There are three units:

Unit 1: Systems and Applications in ICT (120 marks)

Externally assessed

1 hour 30 minutes

40% of total marks

Section A: Very short multiple-choice answer questions

Section B: Short and extended answer questions

All questions will be compulsory for sections A and B

Section C: 1 essay question from a choice of 2

Topics covered are:

Term 1
Computer systems and technology
Input and output devices
Storage devices
communications and entertainment
systems life cycle
working with information
Operating systems
Term 2
Applications software
Word processing DTP
Graphics and image
Spreadsheets
Databases
Web browsing and e mail
Terms 3
Data logging
Legal issues
Social and economic
Political
Collaborative working
Revision / Past papers

Unit 2: Practical Problem Solving in ICT

15 hours approximately

20% of total marks

internally assed (controlled assessment)

externally moderated

Unit 3: The Assignment: Applying ICT

30 hours approximately

40% of total marks

internally assed (controlled assessment)

externally moderated

Content Overview	Assessment Overview	
<p>Computer systems</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Systems Architecture • Memory • Storage • Wired and wireless networks • Network topologies, protocols and layers • System security • System software • Ethical, legal, cultural and environmental concerns 	<p>Computer systems (01) 80 marks 1 hour and 30 minutes Written paper (no calculators allowed)</p>	<p>40% of total GCSE</p>
<p>Computational thinking, algorithms and programming</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Algorithms * • Programming techniques • Producing robust programs • Computational logic • Translators and facilities of languages • Data representation 	<p>Computational thinking, algorithms and programming (02) 80 marks 1 hour and 30 minutes Written paper (no calculators allowed)</p>	<p>40% of total GCSE</p>
<p>Programming project **</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Programming techniques • Analysis • Design • Development • Testing and evaluation and conclusions 	<p>Programming project (03/04) 40 marks Totalling 20 hours Non-Exam Assessment (NEA)</p>	<p>20% of total GCSE</p>

* Algorithm questions are not exclusive to Component 02 and can be assessed in all components.

**Indicates inclusion of synoptic assessment.

Learners who are retaking the qualification may carry forward their result for the non-examined assessment component.

In Year 10

Students Focus on the theory aspect of the course.

Term 1 and Term 2 the Computer systems component is covered.

Term 3 Computational thinking, algorithms and programming is covered.

In Year 11

Term 1A Computational thinking, algorithms and programming is completed.

Term 1B to 2A, Students complete the programming project.

Term 2B to exams its revision of topics with exam practice.