COMPUTER SCIENCE

"Everybody in this country should learn to program a computer, because it teaches you how to think."

Steve Jobs

Subject Lead:

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Exam Board:

OCR

The Ferrers
Sixth Form

Why Study Computer Science?

OCR A Level Computer Science is ideal for students who enjoy problem-solving, logical thinking, and creativity. You'll build strong skills in programming, algorithms, and computational thinking—essential for success in the modern digital world. The course offers both theory and hands-on programming experience, preparing you for further study or careers in technology, engineering, or data science.

What Will You Study?

You'll spend around 5 hours per week on coursework or exam preparation, both in study periods and at home. Computer Science A Level is a challenging subject - 20% coursework and 80% written exams - so commitment and independent learning are essential.

Assessment Overview

Paper 1

Component 1 (40%) - Focuses on theory and understanding of key computer science concepts, including:

- Hardware and software

- Data representation and algorithms

- Data exchange and structures

- Legal, moral, and ethical issues

Paper 2

Component 2 (40%) Tests problem-solving and programming skills, covering:

- Computational thinking

- Problem-solving and standard algorithms

Programming Project (Coursework – 20%)
You'll choose and develop your own computing project—designing, programming, testing, and evaluating a solution using an agile development approach.

What do I need to study the course?
Entry requirements: You will need an APS of 4.5+, with at least a grade 5 in mathematics. If GCSE IT was studied, a grade 5 or L2 Merit or above will be required.

What subjects combine well with subject?

Mathematics, Business, Biology, Chemistry & Physics.