

Tips for Revising

GCSE Computer Science



SPECIFICATION

Pearson Edexcel GCSE Computer Science

Paper 1: Principles of Computer Science, 1 hour and 30 minutes (50% of the qualification)

Paper 2: Application of Computational Thinking, onscreen examination, 2 hours (50% of the qualification)



PAPER 1 TOPICS

1. Computational thinking – understanding of what algorithms are, what they are used for and how they work; ability to follow, amend and write algorithms; ability to construct truth tables.
2. Data – understanding of binary, data representation, data storage and compression.
3. Computers – understanding of hardware and software components of computer systems and characteristics of programming languages.
4. Networks – understanding of computer networks and network security.
5. Issues and impact – awareness of emerging trends in computing technologies, and the impact of computing on individuals, society and the environment, including ethical, legal and ownership issues.

PAPER 2 TOPICS

This paper will assess Topic 6: Problem solving with programming. The main focus of this paper is:

- understanding what algorithms are, what they are used for and how they work in relation to creating programs
- understanding how to decompose and analyse problems
- ability to read, write, refine and evaluate programs.

This practical paper requires students to design, write, test and refine programs in order to solve problems.

They will be provided with: coding files, a hard copy of the question paper, the Programming Language Subset as an insert in the question paper and in electronic format. Students should then answer the questions onscreen using Python 3.

USEFUL WEBSITES



WEBSITE LINKS

- <https://craigndave.org/pearson-edexcel-gcse-1cp2-videos/>
- <https://time2code.today/python-course>
- <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/examspecs/zdqy7nb>
- <https://adacomputerscience.org/topics>
- <https://revisecs.csuk.io/edexcel-interleaving/>
- <https://www.computerscience.gcse.guru/topics>
- <https://logic.ly/demo/>

REVISION VIDEOS

1. EDEXCEL GCSE (1CP2) Abstraction

<https://www.youtube.com/c/PythonSimplified>



REVISION METHODS

- Take Cornell Notes as you watch Youtube Videos or read through the information on the suggested websites.
- Create a revision clock for sub-topics of each paper 1 topic area.
- Respond to past paper questions and quizzes. You can access practice questions on the GCSE Bitesize website (linked above).
- Create flashcards linked to each topic area.



REVISION