

GCSE COMPUTER SCIENCE

EXAM PAPERS

PAPER 1 – 50% of the GCSE

Algorithms, Programming, Data Representation

PAPER 2 – 50% of the GCSE

Data Representation, Computer Systems, Networking, Security, Legal/Ethical, Databases

[This link will take you directly to the correct papers and associated resources](#)

STUDENT RESOURCES

A revision guide is available for the course. Below is the recommended one

My Revision Notes: AQA GCSE (9-1) Computer Science, Third Edition

ISBN 978-1398321151

When buying any revision guide, ensure you are looking at the course number 8525

(new specification), not 8520 (old specification)

Craig n Dave Videos for the whole specification

<https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLCiOXwirraUB4v9JBZJplGaFS4qNIF6hl&si=CnSYdeYBXVuQNHL8>

Isaac Computer Science is a service provided by the National Center for Computing Education to offer quality materials on the course <https://isaacomputerscience.org/>

Further to this, they offer online booster sessions <https://isaacomputerscience.org/events>

PARENTAL SUPPORT

Ask about what we covered in the lesson

- Talking through what we did and why we did it out loud can help it stick!

Help make revision resources

- Making things like revision cards, posters and keyword maps will help with revision.
- You don't need to be on the Computer to revise Computer Science.

Review exam answers together

- Help mark practise exam papers using the marking scheme and discuss how they could find extra marks in their answers. Or get them to explain where they went wrong so they remember for next time.

Student becomes the teacher

- Ask them to explain to you or a younger sibling, the specifications of computing hardware that you might have around the house, or some of the computing keywords that they have learnt.
- By keeping their definitions simple and accurate they will be able to score top marks in the exam.

Top Computing revision tips

- Creating flash cards that summarise a key topic can be effective in memorising key definitions.
- The more past exam papers that they work through, the more their exam technique will improve. Remember to time the attempts and then correct errors.
- Paper 1 will involve writing some computer code, so practising computer programming is still important to keep on top of. This could involve any of the following:
 - Completing a daily programming challenge, like this one [Solve Python | HackerRank](#)
 - Programming for fun!
 - Co-pilot programming - buddy up with a friend. One person suggests the solution to the problem, while the other programs the solution in python.

