



Business & Computing Faculty

N4&5 Computing Science Course



What will I be learning?

In S4, you will attend Computing Science four periods per week (6 periods if you are studying N5 in S5 or S6) and will study the following topic areas:

- Software Design and Development
- Computer Systems
- Database Design and Development
- Web Design and Development

The N4 course is structured differently, and as such has two main units rather than four separate topics. These units are:

- Software Design and Development
- Information Systems Design and Development

How will I be assessed?

You will receive a closed-book written test at the end of the Software Design and Development and Computer Systems topics, and another at the end of the Database Design and Development topic.

You will also sit a practical, open-book assessment on the computer for the SDD and DDD topics.

You will sit a prelim in December as part of the whole school prelim diet, and then a final second prelim in February/March. The prelim papers cover the full course. Similar to the exam, the SDD and Systems Section 1 is mandatory, with pupils being given a choice over which Section 2 they complete (DDD or WDD). As a department, we strongly recommend that pupils focus on the DDD topic.

An open-book course assignment is completed over 6 hours of consecutive class time in February and is worth 33% of your overall mark. This is marked externally by the SQA.

N4 pupils will sit unit assessments for both units and an AVU coursework.

What does homework look like?

You will receive a piece of homework once a week. It is important that you keep up with the homework as best you can as regular revision improves overall attainment.

The homework for Computing Science is always posted on Satchel One for you to access. The homework is normally a range of past paper style questions.

All course notes can be found on the class team in the Teams app.

See your teacher in class if you need help accessing Satchel One or are stuck with any of the questions.