

Computing Science National 5

Award Received

National 5

Entry Level: What do I need to do it?

Entry to this course is at the discretion of the school. You normally need to have either:

- Completed National 4 Computing Science
- Completed the S3 Computing classes and achieved a sufficient standard during these classes.

Course Content: What will I learn?

- How to program using Visual Basic (you will be allowed to choose later in the course between Python and Visual Basic). This will include new concepts like arrays, complex conditions and standard algorithms (input validation, traversing an array, running total).
- How to create a web page with multi-media content. This will include how to add multi-media content, layout a page vertically and work with HTML and CSS languages
- How to create and use a database. This will use a combination of a graphic interface and the SQL database language. Course content includes building creating cross-table queries (joins) across 2 tables and adding constraints to new tables to limit the content of new entries.
- How computers work. This will include binary calculations, how data is stored and how the processor works.

Teaching Methods: What will I do?

Most weeks up to January prelim exams include 2 periods of theory work and 3 periods of practical work. The practical work is all completed on the computers. After prelim exams and til end of February the focus is on practical skills and completing the coursework. After that point the focus switches to getting ready for final exams.

Assessment: How will I be assessed?

The course is assessed by externally assessed exam and coursework. The exam is worth 110 marks whilst the coursework is 50 marks. The exam takes 2 hours and covers programming (40%), web pages (25%), databases (25%) and computer systems (10%). The coursework takes 8 hours (upper limit) and covers programming (50%), web pages (25%) and databases (25%).

Homework.

Weekly.

Progression in the Senior Phase.

Leads to Higher Computing Science.