

YOUR STEP- BY-STEP GUIDE TO SWITCHING TO EDUQAS

GCSE COMPUTER SCIENCE



MAKE THE SWITCH TO A BOARD THAT WILL SUPPORT YOU

Switching to Eduqas could be the best move you make.

You'll gain access to an unbeatable range of free teaching resources, and our team of subject specialists are on hand to give you all the help and advice you need.

Whether you're with AQA, OCR or Pearson (Edexcel), you can rest assured that switching to Eduqas is straightforward. Simply follow this guide, compare our specifications, and make the switch!

MAKING THE SWITCH

Switching to Eduqas is simple, just follow these quick and easy steps:

1. Follow our switcher guide for your subject.
2. Register your interest at www.eduqas.co.uk/switch and receive a printed copy of your chosen specification(s).
3. Visit your qualification page at www.eduqas.co.uk/qualification, to access the materials you need to begin teaching our specifications.
4. Visit our Digital Resources Website (resources.eduqas.co.uk), for free resources that can be used as classroom aids and as revision tools.
5. Contact our subject specialists for subject specific queries, practical advice and guidance.
6. Your Exams Officer will need to register your centre, if your centre is not already registered with us.
7. Once registered, your Exams Officer will be able to provide you with access to our Secure Website (www.wjecservices.co.uk), which hosts a wealth of resources that are not available elsewhere.

WE'RE HERE TO SUPPORT YOU

If you have a question, simply contact our Computer Science team who will offer friendly advice and guidance:

Andy Parker

Subject Officer Computer Science with ICT

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GCSE COMPUTER SCIENCE WITH EDUQAS

WHY CHOOSE US?

- We are the only remaining GCSE with a practical programming element that counts towards grades.
- One of our examinations is a practical on-screen assessment rather than a traditional written paper promoting better engagement with candidates and giving the opportunity to link theoretical and practical concepts.
- Our specification gives opportunities for flexible teaching approaches mixing theory and practical aspects throughout the KS4 period.
- Our positive approach to examinations giving a wide range of question types with straightforward wording.

SUMMARY OF ASSESSMENT

Component 1: Understanding Computer Science

Written examination: **1 hour 45 minutes**

62.5% of qualification

This component investigates hardware, logical operations, communication, data representation and data types, operating systems, principles of programming, software engineering, program construction, security and data management and the impacts of digital technology on wider society.

Component 2: Computational Thinking and Programming

On-screen examination: **2 hours**

37.5% of qualification

This component investigates problem solving, algorithms and programming constructs, programming languages, data structures and data types and security and authentication.

Component 2: Software Development

Programming project: **20 hours**

Unweighted

This component requires learners to produce a programmed solution to a problem. They must analyse the problem, design a solution to the problem, develop a final programmed solution, test the solution and give suggestions for further development of the solution. Throughout the production of the solution learners are required to produce a refinement log that evidences the development of the solution.

This component does not contribute to the final mark or qualification grade.

HELPING YOU MAKE THE SWITCH - COMPARING SPECIFICATIONS

SWITCHING TO EDUQAS FROM AQA, OCR AND PEARSON (EDEXCEL)

EDUQAS	AQA	OCR	PEARSON
COMPONENT 1			
Hardware			
Architecture	✓	✓	✓
Input / output	✓	✓	✓
Primary Storage	✓	✓	✓
Secondary Storage	✓	✓	✓
Storage requirements	✓	✓	✓
Additional hardware components	✓	✓	✓
Embedded systems	✓	✓	✓
Logical operations			
Logical operators	✓	✓	✓
Boolean logic	✓	✓	✓
Communication			
Networks	✓	✓	✓
Internet	✓	✓	✓
Organisation and structure of data			
Representation of numbers	✓	✓	✓
Representation of graphics and sound	✓	✓	✓
Storage of characters	✓	✓	✓
Data types	✓	✓	✓
Data structures	✓	✓	✓
File design	✓	✓	✓
Data validation and verification	✓	✓	✓
Operating systems			
Managing resources	✓	✓	✓
Providing an interface	✓	✓	✓
Utility software	✓	✓	✓
Principles of programming			
Levels of computer languages	✓	✓	✓

EDUQAS	AQA	OCR	PEARSON
Software engineering			
Software tools	✓	✓	✓
Program construction			
Compilers, interpreters and assemblers	✓	✓	✓
Security and data management			
Data security	✓	✓	✓
Data management	✓	✓	✓
Compression	✓	✓	✓
Network security	✓	✓	✓
Cybersecurity	✓	✓	✓
Ethical, legal and environmental impacts of digital technology on wider society			
Ethical	✓	✓	✓
Legislation	✓	✓	✓
Environmental issues	✓	✓	✓
COMPONENT 2	Not assessed programmatically	Not assessed programmatically	Not assessed programmatically
Problem solving	✓	✓	✓
Algorithms and programming constructs	Not assessed programmatically	Not assessed programmatically	Not assessed programmatically
Algorithms	✓	✓	✓
Programming constructs	✓	✓	✓
Variables	✓	✓	✓
Identifiers	✓	✓	✓
String handling	✓	✓	✓
Mathematical operations	✓	✓	✓
Logical operations	✓	✓	✓
Sorting	✓	✓	✓
Searching	✓	✓	✓
Testing and evaluation	✓	✓	✓
Programming languages			
Markup languages			
Object oriented languages			
Assembly language			
Data structures and data types			
Implementing data structures			
Implementing data types			
Variables and constants	✓	✓	✓
Security and authentication			
Security techniques			

HELPING YOU MAKE THE SWITCH - COMPARING SPECIFICATIONS

SWITCHING TO EDUQAS FROM AQA, OCR AND PEARSON (EDEXCEL)

EDUQAS	AQA	OCR	PEARSON
COMPONENT 3			
Report about a programming project comprising of 20 hours developing a given task	Report about a programming project comprising of 20 hours developing a given task	Report about a programming project comprising of 20 hours developing a given task	Report about a programming project comprising of 20 hours developing a given task
STRUCTURE			
Component 1: Written examination 1 hour 45 minutes 62.5% of the qualification	Paper 1: Written examination 1 hour 30 minutes 50% of the qualification	Paper 1: Written examination 1 hour 30 minutes 50% of the qualification	Paper 1: Written examination 1 hour 40 minutes 50% of the qualification
Component 2: On-screen examination 2 hours 37.5% of the qualification	Paper 2: Written examination 1 hour 30 minutes 50% of the qualification	Paper 2: Written examination 1 hour 30 minutes 50% of the qualification	Paper 2: Written examination 2 hours 50% of the qualification
Component 3: Report totalling 20 hours.	Programming project: report totalling 20 hours of work	Programming project: report totalling 20 hours of work	Programming project: report totalling 20 hours of work

THE SUPPORT YOU NEED

FREE TAILORED COMPUTER SCIENCE DIGITAL RESOURCES

We've created a wealth of free digital resources to support our qualifications. They have been developed to enhance learning, stimulate classroom discussion, and encourage student engagement. Access our resources today at resources.eduqas.co.uk

REGIONAL SUPPORT

Our Regional Support Team are also on hand to offer free support in the delivery of our qualifications. They can also give you face-to-face advice on our range of qualifications, online resources, CPD and curriculum developments. To book a visit or to find out more, please visit www.eduqas.co.uk/RegionalSupportTeam



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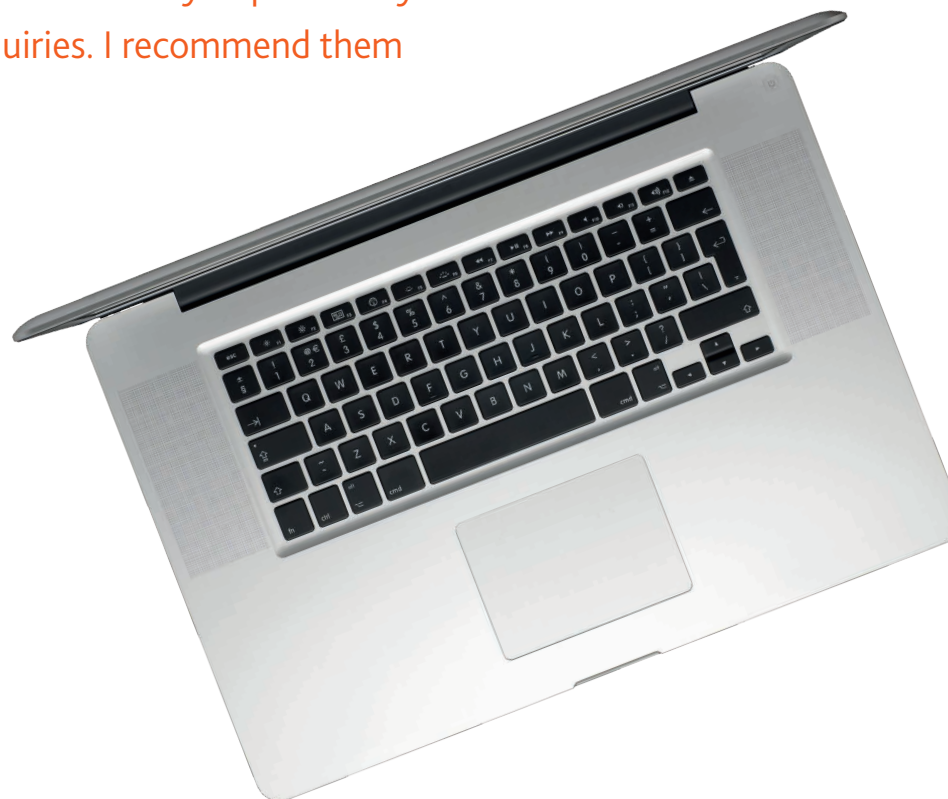
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TEACHERS WHO HAVE MADE THE SWITCH

"Since moving to Eduqas I have been massively impressed by the prompt attention given to enquiries. I recommend them without hesitation."

RANVIR KANWAR,
TRUST DIRECTOR
OF HUMANITIES



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