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January 2018

Dear Parent/Guardian

**Re: GCSE Computer Science Ofqual consultation outcome**

As you may have read in the news, the outcome of the consultation on the GCSE computer science assessment arrangements has been published. Please find attached a letter from Ofqual explaining the outcome; there is a link within the letter to the full report on the consultation.

The non-exam assessment tasks will not count towards the grades of all new GCSE (9-1) Computer Science qualifications. This applies with immediate effect. Results will be issued in 2018 and in 2019 based on students' performance in summer exams alone.

OCR have released a statement and changes for the NEA (which is now to be referred to as the "programming project") to reflect the outcome of the consultation. The students still have to attempt the task within the 20 hour time requirement, however, as it will not be contributing to their overall grade the rules surrounding access to resources have reduced; for example they are allowed internet access now. We will still be asked by OCR for a sample of the students work and evidence of the 20 hours being completed and logged. The programming project was designed to reinforce the learning examined within Component 02: Computational Thinking, Algorithms and programming so the skills that they have used and developed will still assist them in the summer.

The large majority of students in the class have only 1-2 hours remaining of the 20 hour time requirement (with a few requiring some catch up sessions due to absence) and the deadline for submission has been extended by OCR, we are suspending the programming project whilst the PPEs are taking place and will complete it after half term.

If you have any questions regarding this change then please get in touch.

Yours sincerely



Mrs Dearing  
Head of Computing