



Tuesday, 09 January 2018

Dear Parent/Guardian

Re: Outcome of Ofqual's consultation on assessment arrangements for GCSE Computer Science

Following a consultation at the end of 2017, Ofqual today confirmed 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.

The essential changes are:

- Students are still required to complete one 'Programming' task as part of the course but a number of the rules, such as no access to the internet, no longer apply.
- Teachers submit a form confirming their students have been given 20 hours within the timetable to complete the task and the work is the students' own.
- The task is not formally marked but teachers will be asked to submit samples of student work for monitoring by 15 May.
- In 2018 only, monitors will visit schools to check enough time has been spent on all the stages of a task.

More information and updates can be found on the OCR website:

http://www.ocr.org.uk/Images/2018_Programming_Project_FAQ_FINAL.PDF

If you have any concerns relating to this or any other aspect of the GCSE Computer Science course then please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

R McAlaney
(Assistant Headteacher)