

## PCHS Curriculum Information

<b>Course Title: Computer Science</b>	<b>Exam Board: OCR</b>	<b>Specification Code: J277</b>
<b>How will students be assessed?</b> <b>Unit 1:</b> Computer Systems – Written Exam, 50% <b>Unit 2:</b> Computational thinking, algorithms and programming – Written Exam, 50%		

<b>KEY CONTENT</b>
<b>Half Term 1</b> <b>Recap of Year 10, Careers and Opportunities</b> <b>1.1.1 Architecture of the CPU</b> – The purpose of the CPU, Common CPU components and their function, Von Neumann architecture <b>1.1.2 CPU performance</b> – How common characteristics of CPUs affect their performance: Clock speed, Cache size, Number of cores <b>1.1.3 Embedded systems</b> – The purpose and characteristics of embedded systems, Examples of embedded systems <b>1.2.1 Primary storage (Memory)</b> – The need for primary storage, The difference between RAM and ROM, The purpose of ROM in a computer system, The purpose of RAM in a computer system, Virtual memory
<b>Half Term 2</b> <b>1.2.2 Secondary storage</b> – The need for secondary storage, Common types of storage, Suitable storage devices and storage media for a given application, The advantages and disadvantages of different storage devices and storage media relating to these characteristics <b>1.3.1 Networks and topologies</b> – Types of network, Factors that affect the performance of networks, The different roles of computers in a client-server and a peer-to-peer network, The hardware needed to connect stand-alone computers into a Local Area Network, The Internet as a worldwide collection of computer network, Star and Mesh network topologies <b>1.3.2 Wired and wireless networks, protocols and layers</b> – Modes of connection, Encryption, IP addressing and MAC addressing, Standards, Common protocols, The concept of layers <b>Revision and preparation for Mock Exams</b>
<b>Half Term 3</b> <b>1.2.3 Units</b> – The units of data storage, How data needs to be converted into a binary format to be processed by a computer, Data capacity and calculation of data capacity requirements <b>1.2.4 Data storage</b> – Numbers, Characters, Images, Sound <b>1.2.5 Compression</b> – The need for compression, Types of compression <b>1.4.1 Threats to computer systems and networks</b> – Forms of attack

**1.4.2 Identifying and preventing vulnerabilities** – Common prevention methods

**Half Term 4**

**1.5.1 Operating systems** – The purpose and functionality of operating systems

**1.5.2 Utility software** – The purpose and functionality of utility software, Utility system software

**1.6.1 Ethical, legal, cultural and environmental impact** – Impacts of digital technology on wider society, Legislation relevant to Computer Science

**Half Term 5**

Revision & Exam Technique in preparation for Exams