Topic	Unit 1: SYSTEMS ARCHITECTURE		
Learning	At the end of this Unit all students should be able to:	Understand the need for secondary storage	
Objectives	Understand the purpose of RAM	Be able to list the common types of storage: antical magnetic solid state.	
	List various secondary storage devices and storage media	 optical, magnetic, solid state Choose suitable storage devices and storage media for a given application 	
	Give examples of embedded systems		
	Most students will be able to:	 Describe the advantages and disadvantages of different storage devices and media relating to the 	
	 Understand the purpose of the CPU including the fetch-execute cycle 	following characteristics: capacity, speed, portability, durability, reliability, cost	
	Describe common CPU components and their function: ALU, CU, Cache, Registers	Describe the characteristics of CPUs that affect their performance including clock speed, cache	
	Understand the purpose of ROM	size, number of cores	
	Be able to state the differences between RAM and ROM	 Understand the purpose and characteristics of embedded systems 	
	Understand the need for primary storage		
	Understand the need for virtual memory	Some students will be able to:	
		Describe how virtual memory is used	
		 Accurately evaluate the differences in characteristics between different devices Describe the Von Neumann architecture including: MAR, MDR, Program counter, accumulator 	
Skills to be Gained	Primary storage and secondary storage are both covered.		
Assessment	Homework is given for each lesson. These consist of a mixture of short, factual questions assessing knowledge in isolation and longer questions in which students are asked to analyse a situation or justify their answer to questions. The final assessment given assesses student's knowledge of the current unit. In the actual examination, questions may integrate various topics into one question.		
Prior Learning:	No prior knowledge is essential with this unit. However, students should have a basic understanding of computer systems from lessons delivered as part of the Key Stage 3 national curriculum.		
Numeracy/Literacy Skills	Vocabulary associated with this unit, such as: Fetch-execute, CPU, ALU (Arithmetic Logic Unit), CU (control unit), cache, registers, Von Neumann architecture, MAR (Memory Address Register), MDR (Memory Data Register), Program Counter, Accumulator, clock speed, cache size, cores, embedded systems, memory address, Primary storage, RAM, ROM, virtual memory, volatile, non-volatile, secondary storage, optical, magnetic, solid state, drive, disk, hard disk, floppy disk, tape drive, Blu-ray, DVD, CD, capacity, speed, portability, durability, reliability, cost, storage device, storage media		
Spec Link:	The unit covers Section 1.2.1 and 1.2.2 of the OCR	J277 specification for GCSE Computer Science.	

Topic	Unit 2: Data Representation	
Learning Objectives	At the end of this Unit all students should be able to: Define the terms bit, byte, kilobyte, megabyte, gigabyte Understand that data needs to be converted into a binary format to be processed by a computer Add two 8-bit binary integers Understand the term 'character set' Understand how a bitmap graphic is made up of individual pixels Explain how each pixel is represented in binary Most students will be able to: Define the terms nibble, terabyte and petabyte Convert positive denary whole numbers (0-255) into 8-bit binary numbers and vice versa Convert positive denary whole numbers (0-255) into 2-digit hexadecimal numbers and vice versa Add two 8-bit binary integers and explain overflow errors which may occur	 Understand the term 'character set' Explain the relationship between the number of bits per character in a character set, and the number of characters that can be represented using: ASCII Extended ASCII Unicode Explain the need for image metadata Explain the relationship between file size and image resolution Be able to represent a short sound file in binary Explain the trade-off between file size and the quality of playback Some students will be able to: Convert between binary, denary and hexadecimal equivalents of the same number Understand that the number of bits per pixel determines the number of available colours for an image Explain how sampling intervals and resolution affect the size of a sound file using the terms:
Skills to be Gained	Units and data storage are both covered.	
Assessment	Homework is given for each lesson. These consist of a mixture of short, factual questions assessing knowledge in isolation and longer questions in which students are asked to analyse a situation or justify their answer to questions. The final assessment given assesses student's knowledge of the current unit. In the actual examination, questions may integrate various topics into one question.	
Prior Learning: Numeracy/Literacy Skills	No prior knowledge is essential with this unit. However, students should have a basic understanding of computer systems from lessons delivered as part of the Key Stage 3 national curriculum. Vocabulary associated with this unit, such as: Bit, nibble, byte, kilo, mega, giga, tera, peta, binary, bit depth, sample rate, colour depth, pixel, bit per character, binary shift, shift left, shift right, most significant bit, least significant bit, character set, ASCII, Unicode, metadata, hertz, compression, lossy, lossless	
Spec Link:	The unit covers Section 1.2.3 and 1.2.4 of the OCR J27	

Topic	Unit 3: Networks	
Lasamilas	At the end of this Unit all students should be able to:	Explain packet switching
Learning Objectives	Define a Wide Area Network	Describe routers and switches needed to connect
	Describe the nature of the Internet as a worldwide collection of computer networks	stand-alone computers into a Local Area Network Explain the use of Ethernet standards to transmit data
	Describe the difference between a Local Area Network and a Wide Area Network	over a wired network Understand how encryption is used to secure data
	Describe star and mesh network topologies	across network connections
	Understand wireless modes of connection, including:	 Explain the role of computers in client-server and peer- to-peer networks
	Bluetooth	 Explain the advantages and disadvantages of client- server and peer-to-peer networks
	Explain the need for Wireless Access Points to create wireless hotspots	Explain the advantages and disadvantages of various transmission media
	Describe what is meant by:	Describe the uses of communications protocols including.
	Hosting The Cloud	including: – FTP
	Describe the factors that affect network performance	– POP
	Describe the uses of communications protocols including:	– IMAP
	– нттр	– SMTP
	– HTTPS	Some students will be able to:
	Most students will be able to:	 Explain the concept of layers in the TCP/IP protocol stack
	 Explain the need for IP addressing of resources on the Internet and how this can be facilitated by the role of DNS services 	Describe the uses of communications protocols including:
	Understand the need for Network Interface Cards and the uses of MAC addressing	– TCP/IP
Skills to be Gained	Networks and topologies, wired and wireless networks, protocols, layers are all covered.	
Assessment	Homework is given for each lesson. These consist of a mixture of short, factual questions assessing knowledge in isolation and longer questions in which students are asked to analyse a situation or justify their answer to questions. The final assessment given assesses student's knowledge of the current unit. In the actual examination, questions may integrate various topics into one question.	
Prior Learning:	No prior knowledge is essential with this unit. However, students should have a basic understanding of computer systems from lessons delivered as part of the Key Stage 3 national curriculum.	
Numeracy/Literacy	Vocabulary associated with this unit, such as: LAN, Local Area Network, WAN, Wide Area Network, bandwidth,	
Skills	latency, Wireless access points, routers, switches, NIC, Network Interface Controller/Card, Transmission media, DNS, Domain Name Server, Hosting, The Cloud, Web servers and clients, star network, mesh network, topology, IP address, web server, file server, wired network, wireless network, Ethernet, Wi-Fi, Bluetooth, encryption, IP addressing, MAC addressing, TCP/IP, Transmission Control Protocol/Internet Protocol, FTP, File Transfer Protocol, POP, Post Office Protocol, IMAP, Internet Message Access Protocol, SMTP, Simple Mail Transfer Protocol, IPv4, IPv6, MAC address.	
Spec Link:	The unit covers Section 1.3.1 and 1.3.2 of the OCR J277 specification for GCSE Computer Science	

Topic	Unit 4: Network secu	rity & systems software
Learning Objectives	At the end of this Unit all students should be able to: Understand a variety forms of attach and threats the pose at a basic level Identify and understand the prevention of vulnerabilities including the use of: — anti-malware software — passwords — physical security Explain the need for the following functions of an operating system: — User interface Most students will be able to: Understand forms of attack and threats posed to a network including: — Malware — Phishing — Social engineering — Brute force attacks — Data interception and theft Identify and understand the prevention of vulnerabilities including the use of: — penetration testing — user access levels	Explain the need for the following functions of an operating system:
Skills to be Gained	 encryption Threats to computer systems and networks, identifying and preventing vulnerabilities, operating systems and utility software are all covered. 	
Assessment	Homework is given for each lesson. These consist of a mixture of short, factual questions assessing knowledge in isolation and longer questions in which students are asked to analyse a situation or justify their answer to questions. The final assessment given assesses student's knowledge of the current unit. In the actual examination, questions may integrate various topics into one question.	
Prior Learning:	No prior knowledge is essential with this unit. However, students should have a basic understanding of computer systems from lessons delivered as part of the Key Stage 3 national curriculum.	
Numeracy/Literacy Skills	Vocabulary associated with this unit, such as: Malware, virus, Trojan horse, worm, social engineering, phishing, brute-force attack, denial of service attack, data interception and theft, SQL injection, penetration testing, anti-malware software, anti-virus software, firewalls, user access levels, passwords, encryption, physical security, operating system, user interface, graphical user interface (GUI), command line interface (CLI), memory management, multitasking, peripheral management, drivers, user management, file management, utility software, encryption software, defragmentation, data compression	
Spec Link:	The unit covers Section 1.4 and 1.5 of the OCR J277 spec	cification for GCSE Computer Science

Topic	Unit 5: Impacts of digital technology	
Learning Objectives	At the end of this Learning Aim all students should be able to: • List ethical issues, cultural issues and environmental issues in relation to a given scenario	 Describe legislation relevant to Computer Science including The Data Protection Act 2018 Computer Misuse Act 1990
	List items of legislation that relate to digital technology	 Copyright Designs and Patents Act 1988
	Most students will be able to: Discuss the impacts of digital technology on the	Describe the features of open source and proprietary software licences
	wider society including ethical issues, cultural issues and environmental issues	Some students will be able to: List the clauses of the Data Protection Act and
	Discuss the impact of manufacture, disposal, upgrading and replacing digital technology	Computer Misuse Act and give examples of situations in which they are relevant
	 Discuss the impact of e-waste Discuss the impact of digital technology regarding legal issues and privacy issues 	Evaluate the impact of and issues related to the use of computers in society
Skills to be Gained	Different computer technologies and applications and the ethical, environmental and legal considerations surrounding them are described	
Assessment	Homework is given for each lesson. These consist of a mixture of short, factual questions assessing knowledge in isolation and longer questions in which students are asked to analyse a situation or justify their answer to questions. The final assessment given assesses student's knowledge of the current unit. In the actual examination, questions may integrate various topics into one question.	
Prior Learning:	No prior knowledge is essential with this unit. However, students should have a basic understanding of computer systems from lessons delivered as part of the Key Stage 3 national curriculum.	
Numeracy/Literacy Skills	Vocabulary associated with this unit, such as: Ethical, cultural, environmental, legislation, manufacture, disposal, upgrade, replace, e-waste, privacy, legal, data protection, computer misuse, copyright, copyright designs and patents act, open source, proprietary, software licence	
Spec Link:	The unit covers Section 1.5 of the OCR J277 specification for GCSE Computer Science	

Topic	Unit 6:	Algorithms
Topic Learning Objectives	At the end of this Learning Aim all students should be able to: Be able to produce structure diagrams to show: The structure of a problem Subsections and their links to other subsections Understand and use different types of search Linear search Understand arithmetic operators and variables Define the data types integer, real, Boolean, character, string Most students will be able to: Understand the principles of computational thinking including Abstraction Decomposition Algorithmic thinking Be able to produce structure diagrams to show: The structure of a problem Subsections and their links to other subsections	Understand and use different types of search Binary search Understand the standard sort algorithms: Bubble sort Insertion sort Merge sort Be able to apply each algorithm to a data set Understand flowchart symbols Create, interpret, correct, complete and refine algorithms using flowcharts Be able to use Boolean operators Write algorithms in pseudocode involving sequence, selection and iteration Understand the purpose of a given algorithm and how an algorithm works Understand how to identify and correct errors in algorithms Create and use of trace tables to follow an algorithm Some students will be able to: Understand the standard sort algorithms: Merge sort Be able to Identify an algorithm if given the code for it
		Understand how to determine the correct output of an algorithm for a given set of data
Skills to be Gained	Computational thinking, pseudocode, flowcharts, trace all covered in this unit.	e tables, searching algorithms and sorting algorithms are
Assessment	Homework is given for each lesson. These consist of a mixture of short, factual questions assessing knowledge in isolation and longer questions in which students are asked to analyse a situation or justify their answer to questions. The final assessment given assesses students' knowledge of the current unit. In the actual examination, questions may integrate various topics into one question.	
Links with Prior / Subsequent Learning	No prior knowledge is essential with this unit. However computer systems from lessons delivered as part of the	e Key Stage 3 national curriculum.
Numeracy/Literacy Skills	Vocabulary associated with this unit, such as: Computational thinking, abstraction, decomposition, algorithmic thinking, inputs, processes, outputs, structure diagrams, pseudocode, flowcharts, reference language, trace tables, syntax error, logical error, algorithm, decision, terminal, sub program, process, binary search, linear search, bubble sort, merge sort, insertion sort, variables, constants, operators, assignments, sequence, selection, iteration, Boolean operators, arithmetic operators, modulus, quotient, exponentiation	
Spec Link:	The unit covers Section 2.1 of the OCR J277 specification	on for GCSE Computer Science

Topic	Unit 7: Programming	
Learning Objectives	At the end of this Learning Aim all students should be able to:	 Understand and use basic file handling operations:
	 Understand and use data types: integer, real, Boolean, character and string 	openread
	Declare and use constants and variables	– write
	Use input, output and assignment statements	– close
	Use random number generation	 Use SQL (Structured Query Language) statements to search for data:
	Write algorithms in pseudocode involving sequences	 Formulate criteria involving AND, OR and LIKE
	Most students will be able to:	 Use SELECT, FROM, WHERE, ORDER BY statements
	 Use arithmetic operators including MOD and DIV 	Use the wildcard *
	 Use string handling and conversion functions 	•
	Use selection and nested selection statements	Some students will be able to: Learn how to write simple procedures and functions.
	 Use NOT, AND and OR when creating Boolean expressions 	 functions Understand and use parameters to pass data to procedures and functions
	 Understand and use iteration in an algorithm 	Know that subroutines may use local variables which are accessible only within the
	 Write algorithms in pseudocode involving sequence, selection and iteration 	subroutine
	Use one- and two-dimensional arrays in the design of solutions to simple problems	 Use local variables and explain why it is good practice to do so
	Understand the concept of subroutines	 Explain the advantages of using subroutines in programs
		Read from and write to a text file
Skills to be Gained	Programming fundamentals, data types and additional	programming techniques are all covered in this unit
Assessment	Homework is given for each lesson. These consist of a mixture of short, factual questions assessing knowledge in isolation and longer questions in which students are asked to analyse a situation or justify their answer to questions. The final assessment given assesses students' knowledge of the current unit. In the actual examination, questions may integrate various topics into one question	
Prior Learning:	No prior knowledge is essential with this unit. However, students should have a basic understanding of	
Numeracy/Literacy Skills	computer systems from lessons delivered as part of the Key Stage 3 national curriculum Vocabulary associated with this unit, such as: Variables, constants, operators, inputs, outputs, assignment, sequence, selection, iteration, arithmetic operators, Boolean operators, AND, OR, NOT, ==, !=, <, <=, >, >=, +, -, *, /, MOD, DIV, ^, exponentiation, data types, integer, real, Boolean, character, string, casting, string manipulation, file handling, open, read, write, close, records, SQL, arrays, one-dimensional array, two-dimensional array, sub program/subroutine, functions, procedures, random numbers, concatenation, slicing, SQL, SELECT, FROM, WHERE.	
Spec Link:	The unit covers Section 2.2 of the OCR J277 specification	on for GCSE Computer Science

Topic	Unit 8: Logic & Languages	
•	At the end of this Learning Aim all students	Understand the purpose of testing including:
Learning Objectives	should be able to:	Iterative testing
	 Construct truth tables for the following logic gates: 	Final/terminal testing
	– NOT	Identify syntax and logic errors
	– AND	Select and use suitable test data including:
		– Normal
	– OR	Boundary
	 Understand how to make maintainable programs including: 	– Invalid
	 Naming conventions 	Erroneous
	Indentation	Understand the purpose of translators
	Most students will be able to:	 Describe the characteristics of a compiler and interpreter
	 Construct truth tables for simple logic circuits 	Some students will be able to:
	 Create, modify and interpret simple logic circuit diagrams 	Interpret the results of truth tables
	Describe defensive design considerations:	 Understand how to make maintainable programs including:
	 Input validation 	 The use of sub programs
	 Anticipating misuse 	Describe the characteristics and purpose of
	Authentication	different levels of programming language, including:
	 Understand how to make maintainable programs including: 	Low-level languages
	Commenting	High-level languages
Skills to be Gained	Producing robust programs, Boolean logic and Programming languages and Integrated Development Environments are all covered in this unit.	
Assessment	Homework is given for each lesson. These consist of a mixture of short, factual questions assessing knowledge in isolation and longer questions in which students are asked to analyse a situation or justify their answer to questions. The final assessment given assesses students' knowledge of the current unit. In the actual examination, questions may integrate various topics into one question	
Prior Learning:	Students will benefit from having studied programming concepts with a programming language prior to undertaking this unit. Students should have a basic understanding of computer systems from lessons delivered as part of the Key Stage 3 national curriculum.	
Numeracy/Literacy		ve design, anticipating misuse, authentication, validation,
Skills	maintainability, sub programs, naming conventions, indentation, commenting, testing, iterative testing, final/terminal testing, syntax, syntax error, logic error, test data, normal, boundary, invalid, erroneous, test plan, AND, OR, NOT, truth table, logical operators, logic gates, logic diagrams, conjunction, disjunction, negation, high-level language, low-level language, translators, compiler, interpreter, compiler, interpreter, Integrated Development Environment (IDE), editors, error diagnostics, run-time environment.	
Spec Link:	The unit covers Section 2.3, 2.4 and 2.5 of the OCR J277 specification for GCSE Computer Science	