**HIGHER**

# Computing Science

**TECHNOLOGIES**

## Content
The course has four areas of study:
- Software design and development.
- Computer systems.
- Database design and development.
- Web design and development.

## Skills
Learners will be able to:
- develop and apply aspects of computational thinking in a range of contemporary contexts
- understand advanced concepts and processes in computing science
- analyse, design, implement and evaluate a range of digital solutions with some complex aspects
- communicate advanced computing concepts and explain computational behaviour clearly and concisely, using appropriate terminology
- develop awareness of current trends in computing technologies and their impact in transforming and influencing our environment and society

## Opportunities for Learners
Learners will be able to:
- understand the central role of computing professionals as creative problem-solvers and designers, able to design, implement and operate hardware and software systems
- understand the far-reaching impact of information technology on our environment and society
- develop and strengthen skills in analysis and problem-solving, software and information system design, development, implementation, testing and evaluation

## Assessment
- The course will be assessed through a question paper (exam) and an assignment, which will be marked by SQA and graded A to D.
- The question paper is worth 110 marks and makes up 69% of the total assessment mark.
- The assignment (50 marks) makes up 31% of the total assessment mark. There are three distinct development tasks: software design, database design and web design. Learners gain marks for skills including: analysis, design, implementation, testing and evaluation.

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| **Question Paper** | Section 1: Short answer questions (25 marks) | 2 hours 30 minutes |
| | Section 2: Context-based questions requiring the application of knowledge and understanding (85 marks) | 110 marks |
| Specimen Paper | www.sqa.org.uk/pastpapers/findpastpaper.htm | |
| **Assignment** | The assignment is completed under supervision and must be carried out within 8 hours. | 8 hours<br>50 marks |

**Progression** Higher courses can stand alone or follow on from National 5 qualifications and may lead to Advanced Highers, the Scottish Baccalaureate and a range of qualifications within Further and Higher Education.

the National Parent Forum of Scotland

**www.parentforumscotland.org**
**enquiries@parentforumscotland.org**
**parentforumscotland**
**parentforumscot**

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