A-Level Computer Science Preparation Guide

Congratulations for achieving a place on A Levels here at Bury College and welcome to A Level Computer Science!

You've probably been wondering how studying A Levels will compare to your previous studies so we have put together a quick guide and some activities to help you get ready for starting in September.

Be Ready To Learn
- **Equipment** - Black pen, pencil, scientific calculator, notepad.
- **Recommended Equipment** – Windows (7/10) Computer / Laptop, internet access.
- **College Provision** – College will provide you with an email address, access to Office 365 and other specialist Microsoft software and 1TB of OneDrive space on enrolment.

Positive Futures
- **Commitment** – 95% minimum attendance. Meeting coursework/homework deadlines.
- **Resilience** – building resilience through continual assessment and feedback.
- **Collaboration** – working together to present information in a team.
- **Confidence** – improving interpersonal skills.

Enrolment Activity
On arrival you will be given an initial assessment to ensure the course is suitable for you. This activity will be online and submitted online for assessment.

Recommended Activities
Some preparation activities can be found below:

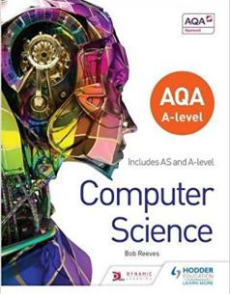| A-Level Computer Science |
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| **Install Visual Studio Community (C#)**
 https://visualstudio.microsoft.com/downloads/

 Code Academy
 • Sign up for free
 • Have a go at the free C# tutorial https://www.codecademy.com/ |

Recommended Textbooks
New textbooks have been produced that are designed for the course we offer.

AQA AS and A Level Computer Science	AQA A level Computer Science
P M Heathcote R SU Heathcote ISBN-13: 978-1910523070	Bob Reeves ISBN-13: 978-1471839511

Recommended Wider Reading
- theregister.co.uk
- wired.com
- arstechnica.co.uk
- theguardian.com/uk/technology