



At Brownhills Ormiston Academy, our Computing curriculum is designed to equip students with the knowledge, skills and subject specific terminology needed to navigate and contribute to an increasingly digital society. At Key Stage 3, students follow the National Curriculum for Computing, developing foundational skills in programming, data representation, networks, and digital safety. They learn to think logically, solve problems, and understand how technology underpins modern life. They are given the opportunity to apply these skills to realistic scenarios to develop mastery in their practice.

This foundation leads into two distinct pathways at Key Stage 4:

OCR GCSE Computer Science (J277): A rigorous academic course that deepens students' understanding of algorithms, programming, systems architecture, and the ethical and environmental impact of technology. Students develop practical programming skills and computational thinking through structured challenges and real-world scenarios.

Pearson BTEC Tech Award in Digital Information Technology: A vocational course that focuses on the application of digital tools in business and society. Students explore user interface design, data handling, and effective digital working practices, preparing them for careers in IT and further study.

Our curriculum promotes creativity, resilience, and independence. Researching and repurposing media as well as creating bespoke graphical and textual assets for projects allows students to develop graphics and interface design skills, preparing them for creative paths in a potential computing career. Learning to program and debug their algorithms helps students to become resilient, as they find solutions to attempts which do not work first time. Independence is fostered through individual project work and coursework at Key Stage 4. This is balanced with opportunities for students to nurture their leadership and teamwork skills through group work using collaborative technologies.

Students are encouraged to explore technology critically and responsibly, preparing them for further education, apprenticeships, and careers in the digital sector. Through Computing, students develop transferable skills in logic, analysis, and communication, becoming confident digital citizens ready for the challenges of the future.

Throughout their Computing careers at Brownhills, students will learn to be:

Ready to thrive in a digital world by developing computational thinking, digital literacy, and problem-solving skills.

Respectful of the ethical, legal, and societal implications of technology and how it affects individuals and communities.

Safe in their use of digital systems, understanding how to protect themselves and others online.