OCR Computer Science GCSE

Exam Structure

At Rossett, we follow the OCR GCSE J277 Computer Science specification. You will sit two written exams, each lasting 1 hour and 30 minutes and worth 50% of the final grade.
You can access the full specification here: OCR GCSE (9–1) Computer Science J277 Specification

Paper 1:
1.1 : Systems Architecture
1.2: Memory & Storage
1.3: Computer networks, connections and protocols
1.4: Network Security
1.5: Systems software
1.6: Ethical, Legal, cultural, and environmental impacts of digital technology

Paper 2:
2.1: Algorithms
2.2 Programming Fundamentals
2.3: Producing robust programs
2.4: Boolean Logic
2.5: Programming languages and Integrated Development Environments

Command Words

It is important to understand what each question is asking you to do. Make sure you know the meaning of key command words used in the exam.

Download the Command Words Guide: Command Words PDF
Watch the Video Explanation: Craig'n'Dave – Command Words Explained

Exam Paper Practice

In the **Revision** folder in **Showbie**, you'll find:
- A range of past exam papers
- Mark schemes
- Practice papers written in the same style

You can download and print the papers or complete them on your iPad or PC using annotation tools.

Using a Mark Scheme

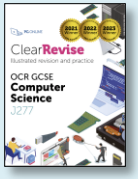
After completing a paper:
- Check your answers against the mark scheme
- Award yourself marks using the correct phrasing and structure
- Identify where marks were lost and revise those areas
- Practise under timed conditions to build exam confidence.

Knowledge to Learn

All subject knowledge presentations for **Paper 1** and **Paper 2** are in **Showbie**, along with:
- Classroom activities, practice questions & exemplar answers

Knowledge Organisers:
Located in the **Revision** section of Showbie.
Use them to:
- Review key content
- Test yourself
- Redraw from memory
- Create flashcards or quizzes

ClearRevise - Revision Guide:
- Digital copy available in Showbie
- Includes revision summaries and practice questions.
- **ISBN:** 9781910523230



Smart Revise

Smart Revise is a powerful revision tool that helps you remember key content and practise exam technique.

Step 1: Use Quiz every day
Complete a few questions daily. It helps you remember key facts and track your progress.

Step 2: Use Terms flashcards to boost confidence
Practise key vocabulary and definitions to make sure you understand the important concepts.

Step 3: Use Advance to practise exam technique
Answer exam-style questions and check your answers against the mark scheme.

Step 4: See how you are getting on
Review your scores and focus on areas where you need more practice.

Explanations and Support

Subject Knowledge Videos
Craig 'n' Dave explain every topic in the specification.

Exam Technique Videos
Covers command words, extended response questions, and exam tips.

Your programming ability is assessed in **Paper 2** and the exam uses a Python-style reference language.

View it on pages **25–31** of the OCR specification.

Regular practice will improve your confidence with Python syntax, logic and structure. All programming tasks completed in lessons are available online via:

Trinket.io – Online IDE