Friday, 29 June 2018

Lesson 1

Computer Science Induction



Course Structure

Content Overview	Assessment Overview	
 The characteristics of contemporary processors, input, output and storage devices Software and software development Exchanging data Data types, data structures and algorithms 	Computer systems (01) 140 marks 2 hours and 30 minutes written paper	40% of total A level
 Legal, moral, cultural and ethical issues Elements of computational thinking Problem solving and programming Algorithms to solve problems and standard algorithms 	Algorithms and programming (02*) 140 marks 2 hours and 30 minutes written paper	40% of total A level
 The learner will choose a computing problem to work through according to the guidance in the specification. Analysis of the problem Design of the solution Developing the solution Evaluation 	Programming project (03* or 04**) 70 marks Non-exam assessment	20% of total A level

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Components

- Component 1 Computer Systems
 - Knowledge and Understanding style questions. (short mark). Similar style to paper 2 GCSE. Computer Science theory
- Component 2 Algorithms and Programming
 - Problem solving. Applying knowledge from paper 1. Pseudo Code programming. Tracing code etc
- Component 3 Programming Project
 - Practical Project to solve a problem of your choice. This will need to be object orientated and include more complex techniques such as networking, file / database handling and graphics.







Facts and Myths

- Is it difficult?
 - Yes. AS / A2 has gone away, you will be doing A-Level material straight away. Lots of maths involved and more advanced concepts which may be mostly theory, or some really obscure industry reference. Get ready to research stuff!
- Is the coursework going to go away?
 - No, you will all be creating different applications for your coursework so you can't copy each other.
- What programming will I be expected to do?
 - Regular programming tasks will be given to you which you are expected to do in your own time. These will encourage you to research techniques and develop your skills



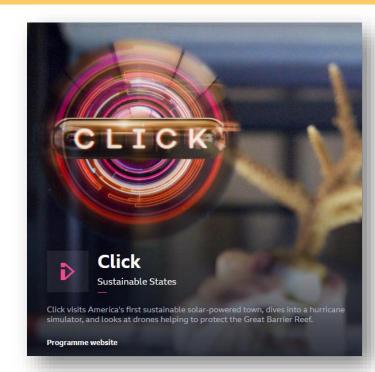
Facts and Myths

- Are global variables banned?
 - Yes. You will be expected to quickly start passing parameters and using only local variables
- Will I have more than 1 teacher?
 - Yes, but all your work is kept in 1 folder



Homework

- Watch BBC click (the full version) each week over the summer *this is only 6 or 7 episodes...*
- For EACH episode, answer the following:
 - What were the main points of the episode?
 - Taking ONE of the stories from each show, DISCUSS the positives and negatives of that story in relation to modern society. (this should be about half a side of A4 for each episode)





Homework

- Go outside from time to time and get some vitamin D
- Life isn't all about just being in front of a computer!





Tasks

- Go to <u>www.bebras.uk</u>
- Scroll down to "Past Challenges"
- Complete as many of the 2015 Elite problem solving exercises as you can

