



18th January 2018

Dear Parent/Carer

Re: Year 11 Computer Science – Non-Examined Assessment consultation - UPDATE

When your child started the GCSE Computer Science (9-1) course, the qualification consisted of two theory units worth 40% each and an in-class 20 hour exam project worth 20% (called the Non-Examined Assessment and abbreviated to NEA in this letter).

Due to issues with the delivery of the NEA at a national level, Ofqual (the regulatory body for qualifications) led a consultation to identify and scope out options of what could be done to mitigate the challenges. As a result, they have decided that the NEA will no longer count towards the final grade. This applies to all exam boards including the board we use, OCR. I attach the letter from Ofqual (aimed at students) for your reference for further explanation.

In terms of next steps, students must still sit the 20 hour project (of which we have already completed 13 hours) and the final qualification will now be made up of two exams worth 50% each. OCR will ask us for a sample of students work in May 2018 along with evidence that they have been allocated the full 20 hours.

The NEA is an important aspect of the programme of study and includes many programming, algorithmic and computational aspects that are required for the second theory unit. Hence, this should be seen as a valuable opportunity.

Lesson time will be used to ensure that students are given their allocated time as required by the exam board. The NEA must be finished and ready for submission by Friday Week 5 of this term. Students will now have internet access and further teacher support to ensure they are maximising the opportunities the NEA provides.

If you have any questions, please contact Mr Gourlay at agourlay@corbytechnicalschool.org.

Yours sincerely,

Angela Reynolds
Principal