





Penshurst Primary School

Winthorpe Road, First Lane Hessle, East Riding of Yorkshire HU13 9EX

Hessle High School & Sixth Form College

Tranby House, Heads Lane Hessle, East Riding of Yorkshire HU13 0JQ

Tel: 01482 648604 Email: office@hessleacademy.com Website: www.thehessleacademy.co.uk

Dear parent / carer

We are writing to you to ask for your support in ensuring that your child is ready to tackle their GCSE Computer Science exams. A large and crucial part of the course is writing programs at home without any direction from us.

In the lead up to the exams, the expectation is that the students should be writing either three to four programs a week or programming for two to three hours a week. This is to help with the Paper 2 Programming paper, which they will sit on **Tuesday 20 May 2025**. This is an expectation that was made very clear at the start of the course and reinforced throughout Year 10.

The impact on the student's attainment in Computer Science when programming at home as described above vastly improves compared to students who do not usually in the region of two grades better.

One of the questions we often get asked is "How can we/I support my child when I don't understand how to program myself?" the answer is, we do not expect you to quality assure what your child is programming. What we would like your support with is checking in with your child to ensure they are programming at home and putting the effort in to make sure they are meeting the expectation as described above. Previous cohorts have said how helpful this has been as it has made the programming paper much more accessible and easier for them.

There are multiple resources available for students to practice their programming skills, some of these are listed below.

- Computer Science Circles
- Programming Booklets on MS Teams
- Code wars
- Edabit (Python 3)

We also offer revision sessions on a Thursday afterschool, which we would like your child to engage with as much as possible.

If you have any questions regarding this or any part of the course, please contact us and we will be happy to help.

Thank you for your continued support, it is very much appreciated.

Yours faithfully

Miss M Wheeler Teacher of Computer Science Mr P Scott Teacher of Computer Science