## Grade Descriptors for GCSEs Graded 9-1: Computing (Programming)

| 9 | To achieve a Grade 9 candidates will be able to: <br> - analyse and decompose a range of complex problems and create an algorithm without any help <br> - use a range of programming techniques in two text based languages confidently <br> - write efficient code using a wide range of techniques, data structures and recursion <br> - systematically resolve errors and build robust programs |
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| 8 | To achieve a Grade 8 candidates will be able to: <br> - analyse and decompose a more complex problem and create an algorithm without any help. <br> - write an algorithm using a flow chart and pseudo code <br> - Create an accurate algorithm <br> - use a range of programming techniques in two text based languages <br> - write efficient code using a range of techniques <br> - apply MOD/DIV and exponential to solve problems <br> - systematically resolve errors and build robust programs |
| 7 | To achieve a Grade 7 candidates will be able to: <br> - analyse and decompose a complex problem, create an algorithm without any help <br> - Create an accurate algorithm <br> - use more than one text based programming language <br> - use a range of casting and file handling skills <br> - always write programs using procedure/ suitable functions <br> - write nested statements <br> - explain what exponential means <br> - access/ modify 1d and 2d arrays <br> - use a query language/search for data <br> - Tests on programs are through |
| 6 | To achieve a Grade 6 candidates will be able to: <br> - analyse and decompose a more complex problem, create an algorithm with some help <br> - Create a mostly accurate algorithm <br> - Have confidence in using at least one text based language <br> - use procedures in code <br> - research and find new ways to program problems (functions) <br> - create a two dimensional array <br> - solve Boolean logic problems of more than 2 levels <br> - solve an MOD/DIV problem <br> - use records to store data <br> - systematically use a range of tests on programs |
| 5 | To achieve a Grade 5 candidates will be able to: <br> - analyse and decompose a simple problem, create an algorithm with some help <br> - Create an almost perfect algorithm that includes variables, decisions and a loop <br> - use an algorithm to create a program in a text based language <br> - explain what variables/ data types are needed <br> - write a program using casting/ file handling <br> - explain what functions/procedures are |

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|  | - solve Boolean logic problems (2 levels) <br> - explain MOD/DIV <br> - create and store data in a 1d array <br> - always test programs |
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| 4 | To achieve a Grade 4 candidates will be able to: <br> - Practise writing sequences and don't require much help to make my own <br> - work out the outcome of an algorithm using different data <br> - Make an algorithm with a loop (iteration) <br> - write a program with a loop (iteration) <br> - explain where variables are required <br> - give an example of a data type <br> - solve a simple Boolean logic problem <br> - know what the system life cycle is <br> - explain why a program needs to be tested |
| 3 | To achieve a Grade 3 candidates will be able to: <br> - write a set of instructions with some processing and a decision (selection) <br> - make an algorithm with a decision <br> - write a program (using a block/object orientated programming language) with a decision (selection) <br> - use a variable <br> - add, subtract, divide and multiply 2 digit numbers |
| 2 | To achieve a Grade 2 candidates will be able to: <br> - Requires help to break problems down <br> - make an algorithm with an input and output <br> - write a program with an input <br> - state what a variable is <br> - add, subtract, divide and multiply simple numbers |
| 1 | To achieve a Grade 1 candidates will be able to: |

