

Getting Ahead – Pre-course Work

#ThinkBrock

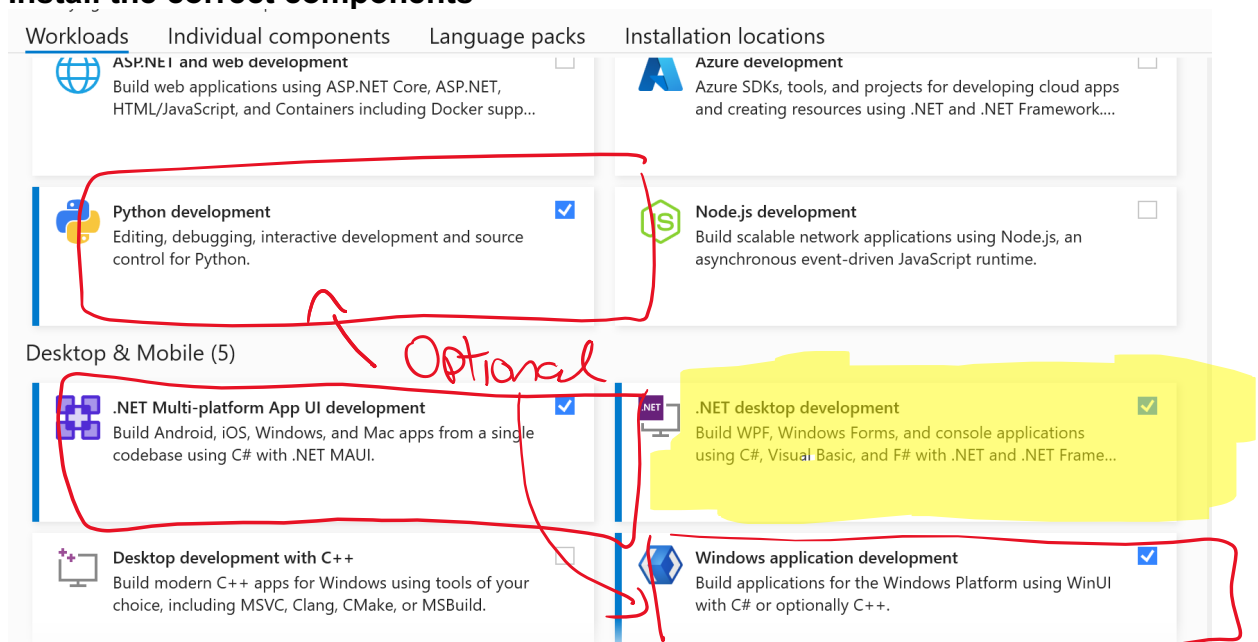
Computer Science A Level

Welcome to **Computer Science A Level**. In preparation for the start of the course, please complete these tasks and have them with you to hand in during your first week of college in September.

These tasks should take you approximately four and a half hours to complete and are designed to give you an introduction to the subject, and the expectations we have for you to complete at least four and a half hours of independent study, per subject, per week.

Install Visual Studio

1. Download Visual Studio - <https://visualstudio.microsoft.com/>
2. Install the correct components



The screenshot shows the Visual Studio installation component selection screen. The 'Workloads' tab is selected. The components are organized into three columns: Workloads, Individual components, and Language packs. The 'Installation locations' column is also visible. The following components are checked:

- Python development (under Workloads)
- .NET Multi-platform App UI development (under Desktop & Mobile (5))
- .NET desktop development (under Installation locations, highlighted in yellow)
- Windows application development (under Installation locations)

A red box highlights the Python development, .NET Multi-platform App UI development, and Windows application development components. A red arrow points from the word 'Optional' to the Python development component.

3. Test that you can write a C# program. Add the code below and run the program by clicking on the Start Button (create a C#, net framework console app)



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```
Start ▾
namespace ConsoleApp21
{
    0 references
    class Program
    {
        0 references
        static void Main(string[] args)
        {
            Console.WriteLine("Hello World");
            Console.ReadLine();
        }
    }
}
```

Add back 2 lines

4. Enrol at <https://www.sololearn.com/en/learn/courses/c-sharp-introduction>
Spend at least 3 hours familiarising yourself with C#



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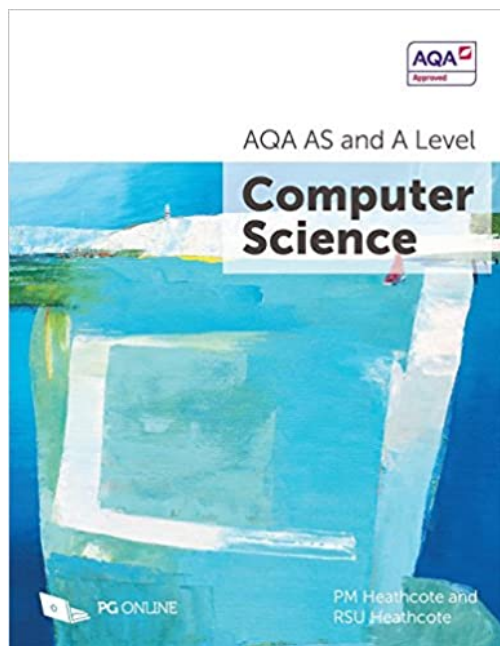
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5. Useful Links

Course textbook – optional.

You will be given resources on OneNote but some students find the book useful, especially if not studied at GCSE.

<https://amzn.to/3eU2rio>



Getting Equipped

You will need the following:

- A computer at home. Preferably a running Windows.
- XP-PEN Star G640 graphics tablet to enable you to write on OneNote (optional). If you have an Android Tablet or iPad with a pen, then that is ideal.
- Calculator that does number bases. If you do not do maths, then the cheapest is the Sharp EL-531XH