

**Saint Mary Catholic School**  
**Syllabus for Middle School Computer Science**

Saint Mary computer science is taught throughout middle school. Each student takes Computer Science Fundamentals in 6th grade. In 7th and 8th grade, students who take Computer Science follow a 2-year course track, leading to HS credit for 1 elective upon completion. Students who receive a B or above in the course will be well prepared for further courses in web design/programming. Students receiving an A in 7th/8th grade *may* also be recommended for AP Computer Science Principles.

- 6th Grade course overview: Class meets weekly and covers the basics of Google Suite applications and the fundamentals of computer programming using Code.org's Fundamentals Express curriculum.
- 7th Grade course overview: Class meets for approximately 60 class periods and covers the problem-solving process as relating to computer science, brainstorming app design, introductory web development (CSS and HTML) using Web Lab, and basic animations and game design using JavaScript in Game Lab.
- 8th Grade course overview: Class meets for approximately 60 class periods and covers app design and development process using App Lab, data analysis/AI and machine learning (collect, analyze, visualize, and make automated decisions using data), further web development (CSS and HTML) using Web Lab, and physical computing (programming interactive projects Arduino-based Circuit Playground board, micro:Bits, and/or EV3 robots).

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**Participation:** Group work, pair programming, and class discussion are essential to this class. You are expected to be prepared, participate in group discussions, work together on activities, answer questions posed by the teacher, complete activity guides and reflections, and follow general directions. We cover a great deal of material and your job is to stay on-task.

**Classwork:** Almost all of our activities will be completed in class. Very occasional homework will be needed to keep pace, particularly in 8th grade. All assignments are posted in Google Classroom.

**Grading:** Grading is based on class participation, completion of in-class assignments, and project grades. Some assignments will be scored based on effort and completion, while others will be scored based on accuracy.

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**Attendance:** It is VERY important that you attend class daily. Each lesson builds on the next, and almost all work is done in class time. If you are absent, it is **YOUR** responsibility to find out what you have missed (message a friend, contact me on Remind/email) and complete as much as possible online from home.

**My absence policy:** We will move through 1 lesson each class, and I will post the lessons each week. If you are absent due to illness, you have 3 days to complete missed lessons after returning. This can be done from home if you have web access. If not, plan to spend lunchtimes in my classroom to work on the material. If you need to stay after school, let me know and I will make the lab available. If you are absent for extracurricular activities (like sports, play, etc.), missed classwork must be made up within 1 day. Again, this can be done from home if you have web access. If not, plan to spend lunchtimes in my classroom to work on the material. **If you will have a problem meeting these deadlines AND you inform me ASAP, I may extend time based on circumstances. If you do not tell me, I cannot help you!**

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**For students:** I have read this course syllabus and understand the expectations for this class. I understand the policies regarding missed lessons and making up work. I understand how to contact my teacher for help and information. I will keep this syllabus in my course notebook.

Student Name:

Signature and Date:

**For parents/carers:** I have read this course syllabus and understand what is expected of my student in this class. I understand the policies regarding missed lessons and making up work. I understand how to contact the instructor if I need to reach out.

Parent/Carer Name:

Signature and Date: