Villa Rica High School

AP Computer Science Principles

Course Description

AP Computer Science Principles (APCSP) introduces students to the breadth of the field of computer science. In this course, students will learn to design and evaluate solutions and to apply computer science to solve problems through the development of algorithms and programs. They will incorporate abstraction into programs and use data to discover new knowledge. Students will also explain how computing innovations and computing systems, including the Internet, work, explore their potential impacts, and contribute to a computing culture that is collaborative and ethical.

It is recommended that students in APCSP have successfully completed a high school algebra course with a strong foundation of basic linear functions, composition of functions, and problem-solving strategies that require multiple approaches and collaborative efforts. In addition, students should be able to use a Cartesian (x, y) coordinate system to represent points on a plane. It is important that students and their advisers understand that any significant computer science course builds upon a foundation of mathematical reasoning that should be acquired before attempting such a course. Prior computer science experience is not required to take this course.

[Click here to view the course overview from College Board.](#)

Course Outline/Topics

- Digital Information
- The Internet
- Variables, Conditionals, and Functions
- Data
- Lists, Loops, and Traversals
- Parameters, Return, and Libraries
- Cybersecurity and Global Impacts
- Algorithms

Expectations

All students must adhere to the rules and expectations outlined in the Carroll County Schools student handbook and the Villa Rica High School student handbook. Please review the Computer Use Guidelines page that follows the syllabus.

Grades

Formative (Classwork/Quizzes) – 60%, Summative (Tests/Projects) – 40%
Please see the official [Carroll County Schools calendar](#) for detailed information about term end dates, school holidays, and progress report availability.

As one of the goals of this course is to help students become work-ready, students will be expected to adhere to professional expectations including:
- Logging into the business lab computer network to complete work
- Following Computer Use Guidelines
- Using professional language during class
- Working well with others
- Treating people and equipment with respect

Class Materials
- Notebook or Folder
- Pen/Pencils
- Headphones (optional)

Learning Resources

All learning resources, both print and digital, are meant to support and enhance the student learning experience of this class. Below are the names of the resources that will be used in this course. Some of the web-based resources require parent permission per federal regulations. Federal laws that guide parent permission requirements are as follows: [CIPA](#), [COPPA](#), and [FERPA](#). **By signing the syllabus, the parent is approving these resources.** Should you have any questions regarding any of these classroom resources, please contact me.

Name of Resource	Privacy Policy
CodeHS	https://codehs.com/privacy
Code.org	https://code.org/privacy
Khan Academy	https://www.khanacademy.org/about/privacy-policy
AP Classroom	https://privacy.collegeboard.org/
Unity Game Engine	https://unity.com/legal/educational-products-for-schools-privacy-notice

Assessments

• Students who complete this curriculum will submit a Performance Task by April 30th, 2026, and be prepared to take the AP Computer Science Principles Exam on May 14th, 2026.
• Students who choose not to take the AP Exam will still submit a Performance Task and will complete a Final Exam in class.

Absences & Makeup Work Policy

Students are allowed to make up work for excused absence, and it is their responsibility to get make-up work the first day they return. Don't assume you

will have class time to make up your work! You may need to make arrangements to stay before/after school.
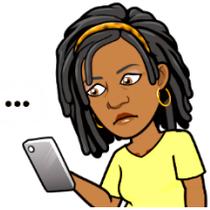
Tardy Policy

We expect all students to enter class before the tardy bell rings. It is the student's responsibility to be on time or to have a pass if late. To be considered "on time" to class, the student must be across the threshold of the classroom by the end of the tardy bell.

When students arrive late to class, they are required to visit the tardy kiosk at the front of the building. Students will type in their student ID and receive a tardy pass to class. Each tardy pass will include discipline information and will result in an email to parents/guardians.

Hall Pass Policy

Restroom passes will not be given the first 10 minutes or the last 10 minutes of class. Restrooms are open during each class change and should be used during that time.

Cell Phone/Electronic Device Policy

The cell phone/ electronic device policy begins when students enter the classroom. Phones and other electronic devices (headphones, Airpods, gaming devices, etc.) must be put away until the end of class. Students should not be using earbuds/ headphones during class time unless it is needed for a lesson.

Internet Usage

In order to enhance student learning, students will use the Internet almost daily as a resource tool for this class. While in our business lab, students will comply with all Carroll County Schools guidelines. Failure to follow county mandated guidelines will result in punishment that ranges from loss of privileges to a discipline referral. All students and parents are required to sign the **Student and Computer Use Guidelines** prior to the student using the Business Lab Computer.

Expectations for Academic Success

1. Complete daily classwork assignments
2. Participate in class discussions and ask questions
3. Participate constructively as a team member
4. Accept challenges and solve problems
5. Challenge yourself to continuously improve
6. Check your grades on Infinite Campus
7. Keep on top of work missed from absence(s)

Thank you so much. I look forward to working with you this year. ~Mrs. Porter

* Parents, please acknowledge that you've read the syllabus.

VRHS Student and Computer Use Guidelines
(Updated 12/2025)

Personal Responsibility

1. I understand that I am to log on to the computer each day with my assigned username and password.
2. I understand that if I am absent, it is MY responsibility to find out what assignments and/or tests that I missed by checking Google Classroom, asking classmates and/or the teacher.
3. I will try and do my very best in this class and keep a positive attitude.
4. I understand that the teacher will challenge me and "push" me to do my very best. Also, I understand that the teacher will help me when I ask for help. However, I should use the resources I have to seek the answer to the problem while waiting for help.

Equipment Care & Security

5. I understand that I do not have permission to "hack" the computer or network system. This includes exploring the hard drive (C:), the Internet, anything unauthorized on the network, setting passwords, overwriting security or any other activity that I have not been instructed to do.
6. I understand that I am NOT allowed to download or install music, videos, files, VPNs, or games. Also, I understand that I am not allowed to connect personal external drives or storage devices including my phone to school computers.
7. I understand that I am not to do anything to the keyboard, mouse, monitor or CPU other than use it for its intended purpose.

Acceptable Use

8. I understand that I am bound to follow the school rules that include the Internet Safety/Computer Acceptable Use Policy as stated in the student handbook. "The purpose of the Internet is for educational purposes and should be used as such in class." This includes the fact that no non-school-issued email should be checked on a computer in this lab. I will not use the internet to search for or download VPNs, content filter workarounds, pirated media, unblocked games, or social networking sites (Instagram, TikTok, Snap, etc.).
9. I understand that I am NOT allowed to stream audio/video or play games during class instruction time.
10. I will not use AI without permission. This includes GPTs, chatbots, and character AI.

Teacher Oversight & Privacy

11. I understand that my work and picture may be published on school related websites, and I give my permission.
12. I understand that my teacher has the right to question my actions and can terminate my Internet access rights at any time.

The following actions will be taken if these rules are not followed:

Minor Offense	1st Offense	Warning
	2nd Offense	Parent contact and/or loss of computer privileges
	3rd Offense	Referral to the office
Major Offense	Any (Includes items 5, 6, 7, etc.)	May lead to automatic expulsion