

# Assessment Specifications

## Level 2 Digital Technologies 2025

Published in October 2024

### General information

**Domain:** Technology  
**Standards:** 91898, 91899

[Link to Digital Technologies](#)

[National secondary examinations timetable](#)

### Information relating to all achievement standards

Further information about digital external assessment can be found on the NZQA website.

[Digital external assessment](#)

#### Equipment required

Laptop or desktop computer.

### Specific information for individual achievement standards

**Standard:** 91898  
**Title:** Demonstrate understanding of a computer science concept  
**Version:** 1  
**Number of credits:** 3  
**Assessment method:** Examination, end of year  
**Assessment medium:** Online digital examination

Candidates will be required to respond in short and/or extended answers (800–1500 words in total) to questions relating to their choice of ONE of the following computer science concepts:

- artificial intelligence
- OR
- encryption

For 2025, questions on impacts will focus on ethical issues and future-proofing.

For artificial intelligence, questions may cover any of the following:

- AI generated content in social media
- car safety systems
- Machine learning
- Natural language processing
- Neural networks
- uses in healthcare.

For encryption, questions may cover any of the following:

- AES (Advanced Encryption Standard)
- privacy
- remote garage door openers
- SHA-256 (Secure Hash Algorithm)
- the key exchange problem
- uses in healthcare.

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<b>Standard:</b>	91899
<b>Title:</b>	Present a summary of developing a digital outcome
<b>Version:</b>	1
<b>Number of credits:</b>	3
<b>Assessment method:</b>	Common Assessment Task (DCAT)
<b>Assessment medium:</b>	Digital Submitted DCAT in PDF format only
<b>Assessment event scheduling:</b>	Term 3 Week 9; between Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> and Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> September 2025.

A common assessment task (CAT) is developed and marked by NZQA, and administered by a school in a single session during the period of assessment specified by NZQA.

Candidates can only attempt the digital technologies common assessment activity once during this week.

Candidates will be required to respond in short and/or extended answers (800–1500 words in total) to questions relating to a digital outcome they have developed within the past 12 months. Candidates must have developed the outcome themselves. It must not be selected or sourced from AI, the internet, or anyone else’s digital product or work.

The digital outcome must be based on Level 7 of The New Zealand Curriculum (see the [Teaching and Learning Guide for Digital Technologies](#)).

Questions will require the candidate to discuss:

- the process of developing the digital outcome, including researching, designing, testing, getting and using feedback, and evaluating
- decisions made during the development of the digital outcome, which may relate to:
  - the choice of tools and techniques
  - consultation with subject-matter experts
  - testing and trialling with particular people or groups.
- the digital outcome that was developed, and what could have been different based on experiences.

The discussion will require candidates to focus on how the aesthetics, functionality, cultural and/or ethical, sustainability and/or future-proofing, usability, and end-user considerations were considered during development of the digital outcome.

Candidates must prepare up to THREE images (JPG or PNG) in advance to include in the assessment:

- a single image of the digital outcome (e.g. a website, a magazine spread, an electronic device)
- a single sample image showing a relevant digital component of the outcome in the software used to create it, for example:
  - the HTML/CSS for a website in a text editor (e.g. VS Code, Notepad++)
  - the 'layers' view of a vector or raster graphic (e.g. in Inkscape/Illustrator, GIMP/Photoshop)
  - the source code for controlling an electronic device (e.g. in Arduino C, PBasic)
  - the CAD/CAM file for a 3D model (e.g. in Blender, Fusion 360, SketchUp)
  - the source code for an application in a suitable text editor (e.g. VS Code, Replit).
- a single image of their development process (e.g. agile development, a planning chart).

Candidates will only have access to their three images. They will not have access to their digital outcome or any other online or paper resources.

### Special notes

The school may be required to provide a link to evidence of the candidate's digital outcome (e.g. working files). Teachers are encouraged to help their students to develop answering techniques to ensure they are able to respond clearly and concisely within the total recommended word limit.