Topic 9: Databases

Keyword sheet - Cambridge IGCSE Computer Science 0984. Tick each term once you can define it from memory.

Keyword	Definition	Know it?
Database	Organised, persistent collection of data stored so it can be easily accessed and managed.	
Table	A set of records made up of fields, forming one entity in a database.	
Field	A single column in a table that stores one attribute.	
Record	A single row in a table containing all the data about one item.	
Data type (database)	The kind of data a field may hold, e.g. text, integer, real, Boolean, date.	
Primary key	A field (or fields) whose value is unique for each record, identifying it.	
Foreign key	Field in one table that is the primary key of another table, creating a link.	
Relational database	Database containing multiple tables linked by relationships between keys.	
Relationship	A link between two tables, e.g. one-to-many.	
SQL	Structured query language: used to retrieve and manipulate data in a database.	
SELECT ... FROM	SQL commands that choose which fields to show and the table to use.	
WHERE	SQL clause that filters records using a condition.	
ORDER BY (ASC / DESC)	SQL clause that sorts results in ascending or descending order.	
SUM / COUNT	SQL aggregate functions that total a numeric field / count records.	
Wildcard (*)	SELECT * returns all fields.	
AND / OR / LIKE	SQL operators to combine conditions / match a pattern.	