

Course: National Extended Certificate in IT (601/7575/8)

Entry Requirements

5 GCSEs at grade 9-4 across a range of subjects including GCSE Computer Science at grade 5 or Cambridge Nationals Creative iMedia at Level 2 Merit.

Aims of the Course

The BTEC Level 3 Qualifications in Information Technology have been developed to focus on giving you the opportunity to enter employment in the IT sector. The qualification is equivalent to one A Level and will develop your knowledge, understanding and skills required by the sector, including essential employability skills, and allow you to apply them in real work contexts. The purpose of the course is to help you to become occupationally ready to take up employment in the IT sector and aspects of the creative industries at the appropriate level.

Course Content

Course first taught September 2016

360 Guided Learning Hours

Mandatory Units

- Unit 1 IT Systems
- Unit 2: Creating Systems to Manage Information (database)
- Unit 3: Using Social Media

Optional Units (to be decided)

- Data Modelling (spreadsheet)
- Website Developing

Assessment (83% Mandatory; 58% External)

Four units (three mandatory). Two units are external assessments:

- One unit is a 2 hour exam (heavier weighting than other units)
- One unit is an externally set assignment

The assessment approach of the BTEC qualifications in Information Technology allows students to receive formative feedback and leads to an assessment. Assessments are carried out through a variety of methods such as assignment and project work, case studies, workplace assessment and presentation.

Career Opportunities

The BTEC Level 3 Subsidiary Award is a recognised qualification by UCAS and Universities so will provide a route to higher education. The Information Technology sector and aspects of the creative industries, e.g. computer games development, are highly skilled and high growth sectors of the economy. An average starting salary in IT are the same as the national median of £30,000.

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