

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY BTEC National

Qualification BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Information Technology

Exam Board Pearson

Course Specific Entry Requirements It is not necessary to have studied Information Technology at GCSE

Overview

We live in a digital world. Understanding how the technology that runs our world works will give you the advantage in whichever job sector you decide to work. BTEC Level 3 Information Technology is an extremely versatile subject to choose and provides a progression route to many Higher Education courses. This new and exciting course has been developed in collaboration with employers, representatives from Higher Education and relevant professional bodies to ensure the content is current and relevant and to ensure that you are well equipped when you leave the course and continue onto your next pathway.

What will I learn?

BTEC National Extended Certificate in Information Technology comprises of four units of work completed over two years:

▲ **Information Technology Systems** (*externally assessed examination*)

You will explore the relationships between the hardware and software that form an IT system, and the way that systems work individually and together, as well as the relationship between the user and the system. You will examine issues related to the use of IT systems and the impact that they have on organisations and individuals.

▲ **Creating Systems to Manage Information** (*externally assessment of work carried out under supervision*)

You will examine the structure of data and its origins, and how an efficient data design follows through to an effective and useful database. You will examine a given scenario and develop an effective design solution to produce a database system. You will then test your solution to ensure that it works correctly. Finally, you will evaluate each stage of the development process and the effectiveness of your database solution.

▲ **Social Media in Business** (*internally assessed coursework*)

You may be familiar with social media for personal use and in this unit you will discover how it can be used in a business context. You will explore different social media websites, the ways in which they can be used and the potential pitfalls when using them for business purposes. You will develop a plan to use social media strategies for business purposes to achieve specific aims and objectives. You will then implement the plan, developing and posting content and interacting with others. Finally, you will collect data on the business use of social media and review the effectiveness of your efforts.

▲ **Optional Unit: Data Modelling or Website Development** (*internally assessed coursework*)

How will I learn?

You will be expected to contribute your opinions and work collaboratively with your peers. An interest in technology is required and an enthusiasm to learn about how the digital world works is essential. You will enjoy a hands on approach to learning where you can put into practice the knowledge you are learning. A mixture of theory and practical lessons will make for a rich and stimulating learning environment.

Where could it lead?

Careers for those with qualifications in IT are diverse and the course forms a solid grounding for both further study and a range of careers. The skills and knowledge you will develop whilst following the IT course will enhance your application into any sector of employment. Higher Education welcomes IT as a qualification that can enhance a range of other subjects. IT based higher education courses are hugely diverse: you could go on to study Computer Science, Games Design, Web design, the list is huge! Apprenticeships in IT are another option and this qualification shows potential employers that you have a broad range of skills.