

EDEXCEL / 2 YEARS

ICT

This qualification is designed for students who are interested in an introduction to the study of creating IT systems to manage and share information alongside other fields of study, with a view to progressing to a wide range of higher education courses, not necessarily in IT.

The BTEC Subsidiary Diploma is a two-year course which is broadly equivalent to an A-level, although it is assessed mainly via coursework rather than examination. The qualification is quite flexible in that it consists of two mandatory units and a further four optional units which would allow students to pursue particular areas of interest.

The mandatory units are:

UNIT 1 - COMMUNICATION AND EMPLOYABILITY SKILLS FOR IT

IT provides tools with features which will enable you to communicate accurately and therefore effectively. The aim of this unit is to help students to improve their general communication skills by exploiting certain application packages and IT tools and also ensure that students understand both the personal attributes valued by employers and the principles of communicating effectively whilst addressing their own personal development needs and interpersonal skills.

UNIT 2 - COMPUTER SYSTEMS

This unit looks at the Microsoft operating systems which currently dominate the market, but students will also look at other operating systems and explore at least one other in some detail. This unit looks at the options available for essential utilities such as anti-virus software which is often pre-installed. The aim of this unit is to enable learners to understand the components of computer systems and develop the skills needed to recommend appropriate systems for business purposes. This unit also requires students to set up and maintain computer systems.

The other four optional units are chosen from:

DIGITAL ANIMATION

WEBSITE PRODUCTION

COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGIES

E-COMMERCE

DEVELOPING COMPUTER GAMES

DIGITAL GRAPHICS

This course can be combined with any other A-level or BTEC course and provides a solid foundation for both further study or employment.