Information and Communication Technology

One Year AS/Two Year A level.

The AS Level ICT course is suitable if you want:

- a good understanding of the general characteristics of modern computer hardware and software;
- significantly advanced characteristics of Standard Application Software skills;
- a good introduction to creating applications software in Database and Spreadsheet;
- methods of presenting and communicating data; and
- role and impact of ICT on society.

The A Level ICT course is suitable if you want to:

- learn how to systematically analyse, design, implement, test, document and evaluate computer applications but without having to learn how to program;
- gain an in depth understanding of network cable, wireless, satellite and optical communications; and • learn about the importance of information in an organisation and the importance of computer systems to organisations.

Requirements:
The College minimum to start an advanced level course is one grade B and four grade Cs at GCSE. Students wishing to undertake this course require grade C or above in GCSE English Language and Mathematics. The student will also be expected to meet the Average Points Score for this subject.

This subject will focus on:

- the difference between data and information and knowledge;
- the characteristics and capabilities of computer hardware and software;
- how software applications are developed, implemented, evaluated and maintained;
- the characteristics of operating systems and other system software;
- latest developments in computer communications; and
- legal, moral and social issues related to the use of ICT.

You can expect to:

- develop and understand ICT terms and concepts;
- understand the role of information within an organisation and how it is managed and assists in decision making at all levels; and
- develop the expertise to investigate, analyse, design, implement, test and document computer applications based on the requirements of a real organisation.

Method of assessment:
Assessment is by coursework (40%) and examination (60%).
For AS, up to six tasks set by exam board and a two hour exam.
For A2, a project involving a real user/client selected by student and a two hour exam.

Progression:
A variety of options will be open to you after completing this subject. You can apply for a degree course in ICT or related subjects. This course can lead to career options in almost any area of industry or commerce.

Student Success at Havering Sixth Form College:
Emmy Harris, a former Redden Court student, gained an A grade in Information and Communication Technology and is studying Information and Communications at Nottingham Trent University.

ICT had a 100% pass rate at A Level in 2009.