



BTEC National Award for IT Practitioners

The BTEC National Award is a two year, 6 unit course. It is equivalent to one A level.

This is a practical, work-related course. You will learn by completing projects and assignments that are based on realistic workplace situations, activities and demands. This course is only available to students taking the Applied A Level in Information & Communication Technology (Double).

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 Mathematics and English Language.

The subject will focus on:

- Communication and Employability Skills for IT - you will learn non-technical soft skills and knowledge needed to be an effective employee;
- Computer Systems – you will set up, use, customise and maintain a computer system;
- Advanced Database Skills – you will develop the skills needed to implement a relational databases for a given business activity;
- E-Commerce – you will investigate the benefits and drawbacks of e-commerce, you will investigate technologies involved in e-commerce and explore the security issues;
- Digital Graphics and Computers – you will identify the technical requirements for creating, storing and manipulating complex artwork. You will produce original images using a range of drawing packages;
- In addition you will choose one optional unit that may come from the IT Practitioner units, the Business Studies Specification. For those studying CISCO as an enrichment course, successful completion of the CCNA Semester 1 course counts as a Pass on the Networking Basics unit.

You can expect to:

- Develop an understanding of how ICT features in today's society;
- Develop practical software skills;
- Build upon time management, information seeking and self evaluation skills.

Method of assessment:

Assessment is via graded assignments and projects. At the end of the second year an overall grade for the qualification is awarded, successful students will gain a Pass, Merit or Distinction. This is equivalent to one A level for UCAS points. The course is not available as an AS

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.