

Summary

This course is ideal if you want a career related to ICT. It is a one-year course which combines practical, classroom-based learning and two external exams. The external exams, together with one other unit, are mandatory. The third unit is about creating a digital portfolio (an onscreen way to showcase your achievements). The remaining units are optional and have been chosen to expand the learning experience. This is a complex but fascinating course that will help you gain skills fundamental to your career development in ICT. You will learn about computer systems (hardware and software), development of websites and/or multimedia products, spreadsheet monitoring and database development. This will provide students with a great start for further study or employment in the IT Industry.

What are the course aims?	What can it lead to?
The BTEC course is a vocational qualification that aims to give you a broad knowledge of ICT and its applications, as well as developing specialist practical skills. It will also help to prepare you for employment in the ever-growing businesses where you would use ICT.	The BTEC is recognised by employers and education institutions. You could go into employment or further training in the computing and IT industry. With a Merit grade, and GCSE English and Maths at Grade C, you could progress to a higher qualification such as BTEC Level 3.

What will I study on this course?

On this one-year course you will study eight units, three of which are mandatory. You will enjoy covering topics through practical assignments, exercises and projects. These will be related to work in the ICT sector.

Mandatory Units:

- **The Online World** – Assessed using an on-screen test, where Edexcel sets and marks the test.
- **Technology Systems** - Assessed using an on-screen test, where Edexcel sets and marks the test.
- **A Digital Portfolio** – Assesses the learner's ability to create a self-contained digital portfolio to showcase evidence of their achievements, particularly their achievements on the CTEC ICT course.

Non-mandatory Units:

- **Spreadsheet Development** – In this practical unit you will become familiar with a wide range of spreadsheet features, formulae and functions. You will learn how to present and analyse data in a variety of ways including graphs, filtering and sorting data.
- **Database Development** – In this practical unit you will become familiar with a wide range of features and the uses of databases by exploring what they are and what you can do with them.
- **Installing and Maintaining Computer Hardware** – In this unit you will develop an understanding of the benefits and implications of installing and maintaining hardware in technology systems.
- **Multimedia Products Development** – In this unit you will understand how multimedia products are used and the typical features they contain.
- **Website Development** – In this unit you will investigate the features and uses of websites by exploring what they are and how their integrated components and applications interact with each other.

Are there opportunities for trips or fieldwork?

These will be offered to learners throughout the time of the course.

Are there any other costs?	No
How will I be assessed?	What are the entry requirements?
There is continuous assessment of your progress through a portfolio of assignments for each unit.	A good range of GCSE passes, with some at grade D or above, particularly English and Maths.
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