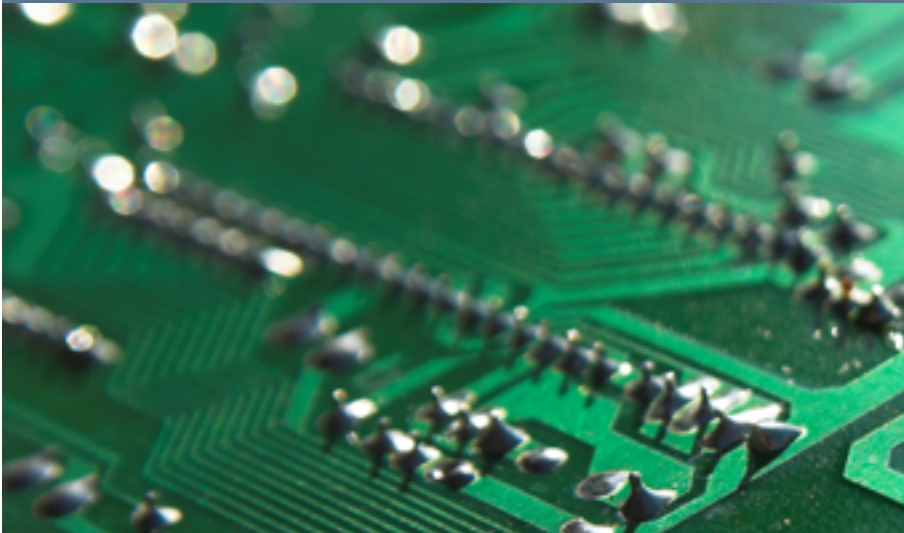


BTec IT Practitioners



BTec National Award

Overview

ICT is concerned with how data can be used and processed in a rapidly changing world. It allows students opportunities to develop a sound understanding of how software packages may be used to meet the needs of an organisation.

Aims

Provide a specialist programme that covers the key knowledge and practical skills required in the IT sector
Provide an engaging programme of study to develop skills in problem solving, analysing, design, testing and evaluating.

Grade Requirement

You should have 5 GCSEs at grades A*-C, including English Language and Mathematics. It would be beneficial to have studied ICT before but this is not essential.

Complementary Subjects

ICT is at the heart of the majority of commercial, industrial, service and scientific organisations. Therefore, ICT complements many subjects; for example Business Studies, Media, Mathematics and Economics.

Communication and Employability Skills for IT

Analysis and Design

Computer Systems

Communication Technology

Information Systems

Website Management and Production

Principles of Design Software

Digital Graphics

Advanced Database Skills

E-Commerce

Advanced Spreadsheet Skills

Developing Computer Games



A BTEC National Award is a practical, work-related course. Students learn by completing projects and assignments that are based on realistic workplace situations, activities and demands. Students focus on a particular subject area and develop a range of specialist skills and knowledge. The course also benefits from a flexible unit structure which matches content to students' interests. Possible optional units include computer animation, e-Commerce and computer games development.

Students choosing this course are often those who excel at coursework tasks rather than exams. This course is assessed by 100% coursework so students need to be well organised and have good attendance. Students must be willing to develop their knowledge and ICT skills through independent learning. This is particularly important because GCSE ICT is not a pre-requisite for studying this course and new concepts and ideas will be introduced early on. Additionally, applicants should be aware that the course is worth the equivalent of two A-Levels.

BTEC National Awards are valued by employers and higher education institutions universities and colleges. The Award supports learners in applying for jobs in IT related careers such as administration, customer service, finance and a variety of types of technical work, such as system support, analysis and design, and software testing.

Students may progress to higher education or other higher vocational qualifications such as BTEC Higher National Certificates in Computing or IT Practitioners or an NVQ at Level 4. An increasing number of students have progressed to undergraduate study through vocational subjects such as IT Practitioners so the course is also attractive to those students who are unsure about the future direction they wish to take at the end of their post-16 studies.

