

Information Technology

Qualifications

Exam board: OCR Level 3 Cambridge Technical Extended Certificate in IT (equivalent to one A Level) (two year course)

Entry Requirements

A minimum of 5 passes at grade 5 or grade C (including English and Maths).

Who is this for?

This qualification is designed for learners 16 years old or over who want to continue their education through applied learning by developing their knowledge and understanding of the principles of IT and global information systems. Achievement of this qualification can support progression to go on and study relevant IT degrees in a Higher Education institution such as, Computing and IT, Computing Science, Software Developments, Software Engineering, ICT and Computer Networks or Business Information Systems.

What does the qualification cover?

Learners will take five units to achieve this qualification. The first two mandatory units provide learners with an insight into the IT sector as you investigate the pace of technological change, IT infrastructure, the flow of information on a global scale and important legal and security considerations. The third mandatory unit reflects an important development in the sector around information security and requires learners to consider how data should be protected and the response of the IT sector to emerging threats such as cyber terrorism.

All units assist in the development of transferrable skills such as communication and problem solving. The optional units encourage the development of time management, research and analytical skills as well as emphasising the need for good written and verbal communication skills.

How are these units graded?

Every unit achieved will be graded as Pass, Merit or Distinction. Learners who don't achieve a Pass in a unit will be Unclassified. A learner must get at least a Pass for every unit to be awarded the qualification. Qualifications are graded using a Pass, Merit, Distinction and Distinction* structure.

Career Paths

This course is suitable for learners,

Who want to gain a Level 3 qualification to support further study at University in IT.

Looking to gain a Level 3 qualification to support further study at University in any other sector or subject.

Who want to progress into IT-related apprenticeships.

Year 13

Paper 1: 3 mandatory units that are externally assessed. These are the fundamentals of IT, Global information and Cyber Security.

Learners must then take two of the four optional units that are centre-assessed and moderated by OCR. The optional units include Project management, Product development, Systems analysis and design and the Internet of Everything.