



BTEC EXTENDED CERTIFICATE IN INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

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ACHIEVEMENT ASPIRATION HIGH EXPECTATIONS COMMUNITY

BTEC EXTENDED CERTIFICATE IN INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

AQA – FIRST TEACHING 2025

Aims of the Course:

The Pearson BTEC Level 3 Alternative Academic Qualification (AAQ) National Extended Certificate in Information Technology is intended as an Applied General qualification covering 360 Guided Learning Hours (GLH) and equivalent in size to one A Level. It is designed for learners who are interested in developing applied knowledge and skills in IT systems, cyber security, website development and databases, alongside other fields of study. The course supports progression to a wide range of higher education courses and future career opportunities in the digital sector and beyond.

Programme of Study:

Unit 1- Information Technology Systems (120 GLH, External Exam)

Students study the role of IT systems and the implications of their use in personal and professional situations. They will explore the relationships between hardware, software, networks and users, as well as issues such as security, online services, data handling, emerging technologies and the impact of IT systems on organisations and individuals. Assessment is through a 2-hour written examination set and marked by Pearson.

Unit 2 – Cyber Security and Incident Management (120 GLH, External Exam)

Students examine different types of cyber security threats, system vulnerabilities and protection methods. They will learn how to plan for and manage cyber security incidents, applying forensic methods to investigate breaches. This unit develops awareness of the importance of robust security planning in modern organisations. Assessment is through a 2-hour 15-minute written examination set and marked by Pearson.

Unit 3 – Website Development (60 GLH, Internally Assessed)

In this unit, students explore the tools, techniques and processes used to develop websites. They will design, build and test a website to meet a specific purpose and user requirements, considering usability, functionality and fitness for purpose. Assessment is through an internally marked Pearson Set Assignment.

Unit 4 – Relational Database Development (60 GLH, Internally Assessed)

Students learn about data structures, design and database management systems (DBMS). They will create and test a relational database solution based on a client brief, applying design methodologies, data integrity checks and evaluation of effectiveness. Assessment is through an internally marked Pearson Set Assignment.

Approaches to Learning:

In this qualification there are opportunities to develop employability and transferable skills through both teaching and assessment, including:

- Problem-solving and critical thinking – applying knowledge to real-world IT contexts
- Digital skills – understanding cyber security, handling data securely, website and database development
- Sustainability awareness – considering ethical and environmental implications of IT
- Interpersonal and self-management skills – working collaboratively, managing projects, and communicating effectively

Minimum Entry Requirements:

Five grade 9–4 GCSE passes including English and Maths. Students who have studied IT must have achieved at least a Level 2 Pass.

Progression:

This course is equivalent to one A Level and carries UCAS points. It is recognised by higher education providers as meeting admission requirements for a wide range of degree courses, including:

- BSc Computer Science
- BSc Information Systems
- BA Business Studies
- BSc Cyber Security
- BSc Software Engineering

The qualification also provides transferable skills and knowledge that are highly valued by employers in many different sectors.

ExamBoard:

Pearson

STEP-UP INDEPENDENT STUDY TASKS

The tasks set below have been chosen to reflect the contents of different units within the course: Unit 1 Information Technology Systems and Unit 2 Cyber Security and Incident Management. By undertaking these tasks, students will gain an insight into the type of work they will be required to complete during the course.

How will the tasks support the student's understanding of the course?

The tasks set, will give students an opportunity to demonstrate the key skills in applying their knowledge of Information Technology and Cyber Security.

What skills will students begin to develop by completing this work?

1. Knowledge and application skills through research and responses to examination questions

Task 1 - (Linked to Unit 1: Information Technology Systems)

Please watch the video given below to give you an overview.

Using your knowledge and research - Please answer the questions given below

1. Explain the key provisions of the Data Protection Act and how it protects personal data.
2. Discuss the legal implications of using social media platforms for business purposes.
3. Identify the types of intellectual property that can be protected under copyright law.
4. Explain how cyber security laws and regulations help protect against cyber attacks.
5. State four legal responsibilities companies have with regard to the data they hold about their employees.
5. Discuss how computers have changed the way in which people work and the impact this may have on their wellbeing

Submit via a word document as an attachment emailed to makbar@derbymoorspencer.org.uk

Useful resources

[Social, Legal & Ethical Issues](#)

COMPLETED TASK

Student Name			
Subject Teacher		Date:	
Form Tutor:		Date:	