



BTEC Level 3 Extended Certificate

COMPUTING



What is the BTEC National Extended Certificate?

This course is aimed at those learners who are interested in an initial introduction to study the Computing sector at Level 3. The course will allow you to gain fundamental knowledge and skills in computing from which you can then progress to broader or more specialist study, although this may not necessarily be in the computing sector.

You will develop strong computer and problem-solving skills whilst undertaking this course.

The BTEC National Extended Certificate is equivalent to one A Level.

Subject Information Sheet



Course Content and Assessment:

There are 4 units to complete of which 3 are mandatory and 2 are external.

Mandatory content (83%)

External Content (58%)

Unit 1: Principles of Computer Science

Unit 2: Fundamentals of Computer Systems

Unit 7: IT Systems Security and Encryption

Unit 15: Website Development

Course Overview:

Unit 1: Principles of Computer Science (Externally assessed)

This unit covers the principles that underpin all areas of computer science. It will develop your computational-thinking skills and you will apply those skills to solve problems.

Unit 2: Fundamentals of Computer Science (Externally assessed)

Learners study the fundamental principles of how computer systems work, including the role of hardware and software, the way components of a system work together and how data in a system is used.

Unit 7: IT Systems Security and Encryption (Internally assessed)

Learners will study IT system security threats and the methods used to protect against them. Learners undertake activities to protect IT systems from security threats, including data encryption.

Unit 15: Website Development (Internally assessed)

Learners investigate website development principles. They will design and develop a website using scripting languages

Learning Methods:

An interest in modern technology is a core part of developing knowledge within the subject. Students will be guided by the teacher but will also be required to carry out work independently, including extended research to become proficient in this subject.

Career Opportunities:

This qualification when taken alongside other Level 3 qualifications, provides an opportunity to progress into higher education to study a HND in a computing discipline, an apprenticeship or even straight into employment within the IT Sector.

The BTEC Nationals attract UCAS points.

Entry Requirements:

- Grade 4 or above in English
- Grade 4 or above in Maths
- L2 qualification in a computer-based subject

Staff Contacts

Mrs McCarthy - Assistant Headteacher Key Stage 5

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Mr Smith - Computing Teacher



Web Link Address

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