Information Technology BTEC

Entry Requirements

GCSE Course Undertaken	Minimum Grade Required
GCSE Full Course	**B**
GCSE Short Course	**B**

Students can take:

- the BTEC Level 3 National Certificate, equivalent to 0.5 of an A Level; or
- the BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate, equivalent to 1 A Level.

Unit	Certificate (0.5 of an A Level)	Extended Certificate (1 A Level)	Completion
Unit 1 - Information Technology Systems (External Assessment)		Mandatory	Year 14
Unit 2 - Creating Systems to Manage Information (External Assessment)	Mandatory	Mandatory	Year 13
Unit 3 - Using Social Media in Business (Internal Assessment)	Mandatory	Mandatory	Year 13
Unit 5 - Data Modelling **OR** Unit 6 - Website Development (Internal Assessment)		Optional	Year 14

This qualification carries UCAS points and is recognised by higher education providers as meeting admission requirements to many relevant courses.

UCAS Tariff Points	BTEC Level 3 Extended Certificate	A Level Equivalent
56	Distinction*	A*
48	Distinction	A
32	Merit	C
16	Pass	E

* Information taken from https://www.ucas.com/ucas/undergraduate/getting-started/entry-requirements/tariff/calculator
- 19th January 2017

Unit 1: Information Technology Systems
Information technology (IT) systems have a significant role in the world around us and play a part in almost everything we do. Having a sound understanding of how to effectively select and use appropriate IT systems will benefit you personally and professionally. You will explore the relationships between the hardware and software that form an IT system, and the way that systems work individually and together, as well as the relationship between the user and the system. You will examine issues related to the use of IT systems and the impact that they have on organisations and individuals.

This unit is externally assessed through a written examination set and marked by Pearson.

Unit 2: Creating Systems to Manage Information
You will examine the structure of data and its origins, and how an efficient data design follows through to an effective and useful database. You will examine a given scenario and develop an effective design solution to produce a database system. You will then test your solution to ensure that it works correctly. Finally, you will evaluate each stage of the development process and the effectiveness of your database solution.

This unit is externally assessed through a task set and marked by Pearson. The set task will be completed under supervised conditions for 10 hours in a one-week period set by Pearson, which can be arranged over a number of sessions. The set task will assess learners' ability to design, create, test and evaluate a relational database system to manage information.

Unit 3: Using Social Media in Business
You will explore different social media websites, the ways in which they can be used and the potential pitfalls when using them for business purposes. You will develop a plan to use social media strategies for business purposes to achieve specific aims and objectives. You will then implement the plan, developing and posting content and interacting with others. Finally, you will collect data on the business use of social media and review the effectiveness of your efforts. Understanding how to use social media for business purposes is useful for employment in information technology and in a variety of business sectors. Also, social media skills are closely linked with web and mobile applications development. This unit gives you a starting point for progression to roles such as social media specialist, content developer and web developer.

Unit 5: Data Modelling
You will investigate the fundamentals of the decision-making process. You will find out how using data modelling provides the computational ability to compare consequences, and determine a preferred course of action. You will develop the skills and techniques necessary to create complex spreadsheets in order to produce accurate information that informs decision making. You will examine a scenario and then design, develop and test a spreadsheet; you will review your spreadsheet and make refinements based on user feedback, providing an evaluation of the effectiveness of the alternatives produced.

Unit 6: Website Development
You will review existing websites – commenting on their overall design and effectiveness. You will use scripting languages such as Hypertext Markup Language (HTML), Cascading Style Sheets (CSS) and JavaScript® and a simple text editor, or rapid application development tools. Finally, you will reflect on the website design and functionality using a testing and review process.

For further information about this course visit -
http://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/btec-nationals/information-technology-2016.html