



ICT Systems Support (Extended Diploma)



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Subject Area	Digital
Course Type	School Leavers
Study Level	Level 3
Delivery Mode	Full-time
Duration	2 Academic Years
Start Date	September 2026
Course Code	PA000023

Course Summary

The Extended Diploma in IT course allows students to gain an insight into Computer architecture, Networks, Systems Support, Cloud Computing, Virtualisation and Cyber Security. The IT Infrastructure course will help to develop your critical thinking and vocational skills.

Throughout the course, our links with industry will help you to develop a greater awareness of professional practices in preparation for your work placement within a local IT Service Provider. You will learn a core set of technical skills aligned to leading vendors, which are increasingly sought after within the IT sector.

This course is equivalent to three A levels and is an excellent opportunity to specialise in a computing discipline and enter Higher Education afterwards.

What You Will Learn

This two-year course is designed to enable students to take their first step into the IT

industry or progress to Higher Education.

Students will complete 8 units in the first year of their course and a further 9 units in the second year.

Modules covered include:

- Computer Networks
- Cyber Security
- Cloud Computing
- Virtualisation
- Managing a Project
- Mobile Technologies
- The Internet of Everything
- Computer Systems
- IT Technical Support

The course uses a wide range of learning methods with a focus on practical workshops. These are designed to allow you to develop your skills and knowledge in a supportive environment.

Additionally, although contact hours are tutor and group-based, independent learning is increasingly developed throughout the course, and actively encouraged for your personal development; use of problem-based exercises and relevant scenarios aid this process.

Entry Requirements

Entry to this course requires 4 GCSEs at grade 4 or above, including GCSE English Language and Maths, or Level 2 IT qualification as well as GCSE English and Maths at grade 4 or above.

Work Experience

Students will be required to take part in work experience at a local employer.

Progression

Successful completion of the course can lead to progression to higher education, join apprenticeship schemes or employment within the IT Industry.

Disclaimer: Our prospectus, college documents and website are simply here to offer a guide. We accept no liability for any inaccurate statements and are not responsible for any negative outcomes if you rely on an inaccurate statement. We reserve the right to withdraw any programmes or service at any time.