

General Enquiries

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MARPLE
SIXTH FORM
COLLEGE

Information Technology BTEC Extended Certificate L3

Location	Marple
Full/Part time	Full-Time
Department	Computing

Course Overview

Information Technology (IT) involves the uses of computers in industry, commerce, the arts and elsewhere. IT includes aspects of IT systems architecture, human factors, project management and the general ability to use computers. Increasingly businesses are implementing IT strategies to manage and process data both to support many business processes and to deliver new opportunities. The qualification covers both theory in relation to IT and its place in society and practical elements for IT in industry. Assessment is through a combination of external examination, controlled assessment and coursework.

Course Start Date

04/09/2023

Course Duration

Full-Time - 2 Years

Course Requirements

4 GCSEs grade 4 or above, including English and Maths.

Course Skills & Benefits

The BTEC Level 3 Information Technology Extended Certificate is the equivalent to 1 A Level.

IT is a high growth area of the service sector, the need for IT skills have been detailed the Greater Manchester Labour Market Plan and the Greater Manchester Local Skills Improvement Plan.

For example, innovative technologies are needed in manufacturing and engineering and AI is playing a large role in business development. There is a large digital and technology sector in Greater Manchester including

roles in cyber security. IT possesses many skills which can be applied across many areas in today's society including: Business, Media, the Arts, Marketing and Science related disciplines. IT is at the heart of everyday life, at home, work and in our leisure time from computer graphics and control systems to communications and problem-solving, IT has an ever-increasing role to play.

In this course, students will develop transferable skills such as

- cognitive and problem-solving skills
- intrapersonal skills: communicating, working collaboratively, negotiating and influencing, self-presentation
- interpersonal skills: self-management, adaptability and resilience, self-monitoring and development.

Mandatory Units

Students will take 4 units across the 2-year programme. 2 of these are externally assessed.

Unit 1: Information Technology Systems - Explore the relationships between the hardware and software that form an IT system, and the way that systems work individually and together. External examination (2 hours).

Unit 2: Creating Systems to Manage Information - Design, develop and test a relational database system - external marked 5 hour-controlled assessment tasks.

Unit 3: Using Social Media in Business - Plan, implement and evaluate a social media strategy. This is an assessed piece of coursework.

Unit 6: Website Development - Be able to design, develop, test, and evaluate a website. This is an assessed piece of coursework.

Course Progression

This course carries UCAS tariff points equal in size to 1 A level. It fully meets entry requirements for progression onto a degree course, when taken alongside other Level 3 qualifications in complementary or contrasting subjects, such as mathematics, physics, science, arts or technology.

The qualification gives learners the opportunity to progress to employment, or a degree in an information technology discipline.

This course benefits other subjects where information technology related skills and knowledge may be advantageous.

Careers could include: Business, Computer Arts, Buying Management, Software development or Accounting and Finance. Other IT based roles may include:

IT Project Manager

Social Media Marketing

Web Development

IT Support Technician

Forensic Computer Analyst

Computer Network Professionals

Network Technician

Database Analyst

Systems Analyst

Business Analyst

**Helpdesk Analyst
System Designer**

Course Assessment

By a mixture of coursework (58%), an exam and controlled assessment (42%). Controlled assessment involves completing an assignment in exam conditions with support material.