Key Stage 5 Information Technology (IT)

Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Information Technology

Overview

The extended certificate in IT has been introduced to allow students to upskill their ICT knowledge. This qualification is designed for learners who are interested in an introduction to the study of creating IT systems to manage and share information, alongside other fields of study, with a view to progressing to a wide range of higher education courses, not necessarily in IT.

Year 12 IT

In year 12 students work on Unit 1: Information Systems. This is externally assessed by exam in May/June. They also learn database management using Microsoft Access, developing an understanding of how to produce relational databases, queries and forms as well as other complex tasks. This unit is finalised with a 2-session, 5-hour exam set by the examination board and marked externally.

AUTUMN TERM 1
>Digital devices in IT systems
>Learning DBMS practical skills

AUTUMN TERM 2
>Ethical issues
>Operating online
>Learning DBMS practical skills

SPRING TERM 1
>Impact of IT systems
>Protecting data and information
>Learning DBMS practical skills

SPRING TERM 2
>Transmitting data
>Learning DBMS practical skills

SUMMER TERM 1
>Revision for exam
>Learning DBMS practical skills

SUMMER TERM 2
>Completing a controlled assessment practical for Unit 2 (5 hours in total)
>Completing an externally assessed written exam for Unit 1

Year 13 IT

In year 13 students complete the internally assessed units. These include Unit 3 - Creating Systems to Manage Information - which allows students to research social media platforms with a view to understanding how their use can enhance a business.

They create their own business online, displaying statistical information about running a social media page from a business perspective. They also complete Unit 5 which is another coursework-based unit which explores the use of Microsoft Excel to investigate data modelling and how it can be used in the decision-making process.

AUTUMN TERM 1

Learning how to use Excel and all of the complex features

AUTUMN TERM 2

Completion of the coursework for Unit 5
A1 Stages in the decision-making process
A2 Spreadsheet features used to support data modelling
A3 Using data modelling to consider alternatives
A4 Evaluating models
A5 Documenting and justifying decisions
B1 Functional specification
B2 Spreadsheet model design
B3 Reviewing and refining data model designs
C1 Developing a data model solution
C2 Testing the data model solution
C3 Reviewing and refining the data model solution
C4 Skills, knowledge and behaviours

SPRING TERM 1

A Explore the impact of social media on the ways in which businesses promote their products and services
B Develop a plan to use social media in a business to meet requirements

SPRING TERM 2

C Implement the use of social media in a business
Finalise coursework to be sent off

SUMMER TERM 1

Revision for retakes of Unit 1