AS/A Level
ICT

(Available for teaching from September 2008)

This specification sees students develop a wide range of ICT skills together with an in-depth knowledge and understanding of ICT. Candidates are encouraged to become discerning users of ICT.

What are the benefits to me and my students of delivering this OCR specification?

- This new specification provides the ideal foundation for those students who wish to pursue ICT at degree level or as a career

- Assessment has been streamlined: the coursework element is still 40% but there are now only two examinations at just 2 hours each

- Coursework assessment has been retained as the best method to assess practical skills. There are now fewer marks for each coursework unit making assessment quicker

- AS coursework is structured around tasks which cover a wide range of skills. The criteria for A2 coursework has been rewritten to make it more accessible for non-database projects

- The emphasis is now on business ICT focus, rather than the traditional Computing perspective - areas like algorithms have been removed and candidates can gain skills that can be transferred into the business world.

AS Level

Mandatory/Optional?	Unit title and description	Assessment method and weighting
Mandatory	**G061: Information, Systems and Applications (External)** Topics covered in this unit: data, information, knowledge and processing; software and hardware components of an information system; characteristics of standard applications software and application areas; spreadsheet concepts; relational database concepts; applications software used for presentation and communication of data; the role and impact of ICT - legal, moral and social issues.	**2 hour exam** **AS Level – 60%** **A Level – 30%**
Mandatory	**G062: Structured ICT Tasks (Coursework)** Candidates have the opportunity to explore design, software development, testing and documentation.	**Coursework** **AS Level – 40%** **A Level – 20%**

A2 Level

Mandatory/Optional?	Unit title and description	Assessment method and weighting
Mandatory	**G063: ICT Systems, Applications and Implications (External)** In this unit candidates gain an understanding of the systems cycle; designing computer-based information systems; networks and communication; applications of ICT; implementing computer-based information systems and implications of ICT.	**2 hour exam** **A Level – 30%**
Mandatory	**G064: ICT Project (Coursework)** Candidates explore definition, investigation and analysis; design; software development, testing and implementation; documentation and evaluation through a client-driven project.	**Coursework** **A Level – 20%**

How is this qualification assessed?

At AS level, the Information, Systems and Applications unit is assessed via written examination, Structured ICT Tasks is assessed on coursework.

At A2 level ICT Systems, Applications and Implications is assessed via written examination, ICT Project is assessed on coursework.

Examination series are every January and June.

Information, Systems and Applications – January and June.

Structured ICT Tasks – June only.

ICT Systems, Applications and Implications – January and June.

ICT Project – January and June.

What support will I receive?

Training
Promotional sessions and INSET training will be available.

Publishers
Developed in close consultation with OCR, Hodder is publishing materials for the 2008 ICT A Level specification.

Resources
You will be able to download all the following resources from the OCR website – **www.ocr.org.uk.**

- Sample Candidate Answers
- Sample Assessment Materials
- Schemes of work
- Exemplar exercises.

For more information please contact the OCR Customer Contact Centre on **01223 553998**, or visit **www.ocr.org.uk** where you can also join the thriving ICT e-community.