

Introduction to GCSE ICT B (Full & Short Course)

Why study Information and Communication Technology?

ICT is a fundamental part of our lives. The growth in the use of mobile telephones, portable computers and the Internet is affecting the way we all live and work. This GCSE explores the use of ICT in society and gives you the essential background you need to work and live in a technological society. It will prepare you for life and work and help you to get a job. The course will also provide you with an essential foundation for any further courses including courses specific to the use of computers and new technology such as A-level, AS, vocational and occupational courses.

You will study:

- * Practical use of ICT;
- * How to design ICT systems;
- * The growth in the use of the Internet, mobile telephones and other communications technology;
- * How ICT is used in society, including moral and ethical considerations, and security;
- * How to use the best hardware and software for a given situation.

You will learn:

- * How to use hardware and software;
- * How to research ICT use;
- * Key skills in numeracy, communication and ICT;
- * About practical design of ICT systems.

Assessment:

This course consists of four modules. The first two modules make up a short course in ICT. By extending these to take the other two modules, you can achieve a full course GCSE.

Module 1

This is the Key Skills test, which is one hour long. These tests have been designed to test essential skills that are used in the workplace.

Module 2 - Coursework

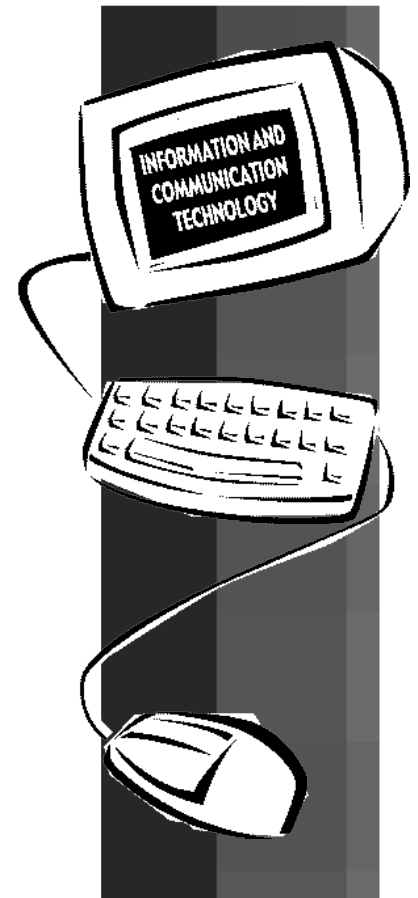
You will design and make an ICT solution suitable for a real business situation. You will be allowed twelve hours of computer time to complete this project, working at school, home, college or wherever appropriate.

Module 3 - Coursework

You will produce another piece of coursework either to extend your initial coursework, or a new piece of coursework of your own choice. Again, this coursework allows twelve hours of computer time.

Module 4

This final module is an examination paper based on commercial use of ICT. This paper can be taken at Foundation or Higher level. The Foundation paper is one hour long and the Higher paper is one and a half hours long. You will be told in advance what the examination paper is based on and you may take your research into the examination room to help you answer the questions.



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