



BTEC Tech Award in Digital IT
Head of Faculty: Mrs J Maynard
Email: J.Maynard@barnwell.herts.sch.uk

Why study BTEC Tech Award in Digital IT?

From personal computers to smartphones, from apps to websites, all our lives, every day, are enhanced through the use of IT. The BTEC Tech Award in Digital IT reflect this and provide students with a solid foundation for understanding and applying this subject in their future working lives.

What does the course involve?

BTEC Tech Award in Digital IT focuses on providing a real-world approach to learning and developing specific knowledge and skills using a variety of software packages. You will study interface design and create your own interface. In addition, you will develop skills in data handling, spreadsheet design and an understanding of project management and cyber security.

Course content:

Component 1: Exploring user interface design principles and project planning techniques

In this component you will exploring interface design and development. You will create a user interface for a client after investigation of how to use project planning techniques to manage a digital project. You will discover how to develop and review a digital user interface.

Component 2: Collecting, presenting and interpreting data

You will explore how data impacts on individuals and organisations. You will create a digital solution using spreadsheet software, which you will use to draw conclusions and make recommendations on data intelligence. You will develop a dashboard using data manipulation tools. Students will develop a full complement of transferable skills, standing them in good stead for structuring and monitoring data in their future.

Component 3: Effective digital working practices

You will explore how modern information technology is evolving. You will consider legal and ethical issues in data and information sharing. You will understand cybersecurity and be able to guard against it. Essential when handling data is an understanding of the surrounding legal, moral, ethical, and security issues. This theme considers this along with the different risks associated with data and its storage and how these can be mitigated (for example, minimising risks of cyber-attacks). This element of the qualification will provide students with the skills to stay safe when completing their future activities using information technologies, be that for personal, education or working for an employer.

Students will develop the confidence to use a range of information technology that is currently available, as well as being adaptable and resilient enough to deal with its rapid advances. Students will learn how to use different technologies (hardware and software applications), and tools and techniques used to select, store and manipulate data.

How will I be assessed?

This qualification is 120 Guided Learning hours and is equivalent to a GCSE in both size and rigour. There are two centre assessed components offering practical task-based assessment opportunities, alongside the examined component of assessment, which contains underpinning knowledge and understanding. This creates a focused, fully synoptic qualification which complements a Key Stage 4 study programme alongside other vocational qualifications and GCSEs.



What are my progression routes?

Students can progress to careers in interface design, app design, database design, data analysis or network administrator. There are many exciting opportunities in information technology requiring a broad base of interface design, big data and problem-solving skills. Students may decide to study level 3 BTEC Nationals in IT, undertake an apprenticeship and/or a degree in a wide variety of IT/digital options.