

Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Information Technology – Long term overview (two years)

This course is 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. Learners will develop a common core of IT knowledge and study areas such as the relationship between hardware and software that form an IT system, managing and processing data to support business and using IT to communicate and share information.

The qualification will enable learners to progress to further study in the IT sector or other sectors and the opportunity to progress to a degree in an information technology discipline or a degree where information technology related skills and knowledge may be advantageous.

Year 12	Focus / Topic	Knowledge & Skills		Assessment
Autumn	Unit 01: Information Technology Systems	<u>Digital devices in IT systems</u> A1. Digital devices, their functions and use A2. Peripheral devices and media A3. Computer software in an IT system A4. Emerging technologies A5. Choosing IT systems	<u>Transmitting data</u> B1. Connectivity B2. Networks B3. Issues relating to transmission of data	November Assessment Week (whole school); end of learning aim tests.
	Unit 02: Creating Systems to Manage Information	<u>The purpose and structure of relational database management systems</u> A1. Relational database management systems A2. Manipulating data structures and data in relational databases A3. Normalisation		End of learning aim test.
Spring	Unit 01: Information Technology Systems	<u>Operating online</u> C1. Online system C2. Online communities <u>Protecting data and information</u> D1. Threats to data, information and systems D2. Protecting data	<u>Impact of IT systems</u> E1. Online services E2. Impact on organisations E3. Using and manipulating data	March Assessment Week (whole school); end of learning aim tests.

Year 12	Focus / Topic	Knowledge & Skills		Assessment
	Unit 02: Creating Systems to Manage Information	<u>Standard methods and techniques to design relational database solutions</u> B1. Relational database design B2. Design documentation	<u>Creating a relational database structure</u> C1. Producing a database solution C2. Testing and refining the database solution	End of learning aim tests.
Summer 1	Unit 01: Information Technology Systems	<u>Issues</u> F1. Moral and ethical issues F2. Legal issues		Externally assessed exam (May)
	Unit 02: Creating Systems to Manage Information	<u>Evaluating a database development project</u> D1. Database design evaluation D2. Evaluation of database testing D3. Evaluation of the database		Externally assessed controlled assessment (June)
Summer 2	Unit 3: Using Social Media in Business	<u>Explore the impact of social media on the ways in which businesses promote their products and services</u> A1. Social media websites A2. Business uses of social media A3. Risks and issues		Internal assessment : assignment 1: (due October)

Year 13	Focus / Topic	Knowledge & Skills	Assessment
Autumn 1	Unit 3: Using Social Media in Business (continued)	<u>Develop a plan to use social media in a business to meet requirements</u> B1. Social media planning processes B2. Business requirements B3. Content planning and publishing B4. Developing an online community B5. Developing a social media policy B6. Reviewing and refining plans	Internal assessment : assignment : (due late November)
Autumn 2		<u>Implement the use of social media in a business</u> C1. Creating accounts and profiles C2. Content creation and publication	
Spring 1		C3. Implementation of online community building C4. Data gathering and analysis C5. Skills, knowledge and behaviours	
Spring 2	Unit 6: Website Development	<u>Understand the principles of website development</u> A1. Purpose and principles of website products A2. Factors affecting website performance <u>Design a website to meet client requirements</u> B1. Website design B2. Common tools and techniques used to produce websites B3. Website design B4. Common tools and techniques used to produce websites	Internal assessment of learning aim A: (assignment 1: due March)
Summer 1		<u>Develop a website to meet client requirements</u> C1. Client-side scripting languages C2. Website development C3. Website review C4. Website optimisation C5. Skills, knowledge and behaviours	

Course ends mid-May.