CLAIRES COURT
SIXTH FORM

Curriculum Statement

Year 13 - BTEC IT
2025 – 2026

Your place to *aim high*

BTEC Extended Certificate in Information Technology (IT)

About the course

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.
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.

Requirements for Success

Entry Requirements

Students are required to have GCSE Mathematics and English at a minimum of grade 5.

Who is suitable for this course?

Anyone who has a keen interest in IT in the business environment and is aiming to progress to studying at a higher level including University or Apprenticeship. The course focuses on understanding, designing and implementing IT solutions for business. Topics include:

- Relationships between user, hardware and software
- Impact of IT systems on organisations and individuals
- Databases including the structure of data, efficient data structures and evaluation of a solution
- Plan social media strategies for business to achieve specific aims and objectives
- Implement a social media plan, developing content and reviewing the effectiveness
- Optionally spreadsheets and data modelling, including design, development and testing a spreadsheet; including a reviewing and making refinements based on user feedback, providing an evaluation
- Optionally website development including reviewing and evaluating current sites then designing, developing and evaluating a site.

Course Structure

There are three mandatory units

Unit 1 - Learners study the role of digital systems and the implications of their use in personal and professional situations.

Unit 2 - Learners study the design, creation, testing and evaluation of a relational database system to manage information.

Unit 3 - Learners explore how businesses use social media to promote their products and services. Learners also implement social media activities in a business to meet requirements.

Unit 6 - Learners investigate website development principles. They will design and develop a website using scripting languages.

These are studied over a two year period spanning Year 12 and 13.

Method of study

Whole class, individual and small group work to prepare presentations, discussions and written essay answers. Unit 1 uses all software platforms in a lab environment, Unit 2 uses Microsoft Access as a Relational database, Unit 3 uses current Social Media platforms, Unit 5 uses Microsoft Excel for data modelling and Unit 6 uses Visual Studio Code linked to a local web server to deploy HTML and CSS web pages.

Assessment

Unit one: Information Communication Technology Systems. 33% of course.
Externally set and marked written examination, 90 marks, 2 hours.

Unit two: Creating Systems to Manage Information. 25% of course
Externally set task completed under supervised conditions in two sessions.
Part A, learners will be provided with a brief to complete five activities in three hours on the afternoon of the first day.
Part B, learners will be provided with a brief to complete three activities in two hours on the morning of the second day. These are completed using a computer and submitted electronically.
66 marks are available across both parts.

Unit three: Using Social Media in Business. 25% of course
Internally set and marked 2 report based assignments completed during lessons and study time.

Optional Unit six: Website Development. 17% of course
Internally set and marked, two report based assignments completed during lessons and study time.

Mastery

Students who show mastery during the course will be prepared for a variety of IT led business roles including system design, analysis and evaluation, understanding of data and business IT needs. They will also be able to think critically, creatively and solve problems effectively. They will:

- Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the principles of information technology including computer hardware, software and networking.
- Apply information technology skills to solve problems.
- Communicate information technology ideas effectively.
- Work independently and as part of a team.
- Use of a range of applications to support their information technology work.

Where does it lead?

This course provides a suitable foundation for the study of IT or Computer Science related courses in Higher Education including Apprenticeships. Equally it is suitable for candidates intending to pursue careers in IT or Business. In addition to this the qualification enables learners to develop the transferable skills and higher-order skills that are highly regarded by higher education providers and employers. For example, the course particularly encourages development of research and analysis skills, project management and prioritising, effective communication, the synthesis skills of adapting and interacting and the evaluation skills of assessing, interpreting and validating.

Awarding Body: Pearson.

For further information please contact:

Mr André Boulton - anb@clairescourt.net

Course specifications may be subject to change as directed by the examining board.