

ICT

Applied A Level: Single

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Exam Board: OCR



What is the course about?

Applied A level ICT is about using standard software to deal with realistic business tasks and problems. You build your expertise with software in common use both at home and in the workplace. There is a lot of scope for you to tailor the work to your specific interests and ambitions with the course adopting a strongly “real-world” approach to the use of IT.

For the AS level you will study:

In the AS year you focus on using the internet to research information and on using spreadsheets to analyse data and problems. You make use of software from the Microsoft Office suite of programmes to solve problems in communicating and analysing information in business environments.

For the A2 level you will study:

In the A2 year there is a focus on project management software alongside the development of an IT based solution to a given practical problem. You also develop your expertise with spreadsheets further, using them to handle numerical data, and you learn and use software for working with websites.

How is the course assessed?

The AS course is assessed through 2 portfolios and 1 assessment where you prepare notes on a case study then answer questions using those notes in a written exam. The A2 course is assessed through 3 portfolios

What skills will I need and develop in this course?

Prior study of ICT at GCSE level is useful but not essential. Through the course you will acquire the necessary skills, knowledge and understanding to create, develop and present high quality work.

Subject combination advice:

The course is useful and interesting in its own right and complements a wide range of subjects. It combines particularly well with Business Studies if your longer term interests are in that direction.

What can the course lead to in terms of higher education and future careers?

This course provides a broad introduction to ICT and prepares you for study on a variety of courses in further or higher education.

What are the formal entry requirements for this course?

Aside from the general entry criteria that the College requires, you will also need to achieve at least Grade C in GCSE Maths. A good standard of written English is also important as you have to write clearly about the ways in which you have developed your solutions to ICT problems.

What extra support / enrichment activities are on offer?

The department visits a place of interest to use as a theme throughout the first year portfolios. This is often a theme park. We have strong links with Surrey University Computing Department, who often arrange an annual IT workshop for our students, and we are associated with the British Computer Society.



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