

OCR Level 2 in Information Technology

Course Overview

- **Exam Board** – OCR
- **Usual Age Range** – 16+
- **Qualification** – Equivalent to 1 GCSE
- **Curriculum Time** – Three 50 minute lessons per week in class plus additional work in Independent Learning Time
- **Assessment** – this curriculum is assessed via:
 - 1 x 45 minute on-screen exam – Essentials of IT
 - 1 x 60 minute on-screen exam – Essentials of Cyber Security
 - Non-Examined coursework - Using Social Media Channels for Business (task set by OCR) – students create a report to identify the most suitable channel to communicate a business need. They will create content and use the social media tools available to publish this content.
 - Non-Examined coursework - Using Data Management Software (task set by OCR) – students create a written report to show an understanding of the difference between data and information and the quality of the data, which data needs to be analysed for a given business need and how to carry out the analysis and present the findings and recommend the use of their analysis model for future analyses and decision making.
- **Grading** – Distinction*, Distinction, Merit, Pass, Unclassified
- **Full specification** - <https://www.ocr.org.uk/Images/260857-cambridge-technicals-it-summary-brochure.pdf>

Curriculum Intent

The **intent** of the Information Technology curriculum is to give UTC students an opportunity to develop the skills required to support the needs of business through data analysis and decision making, identifying the most suitable channel to communicate a business need and creating suitable content, or considering how emerging technologies can be used to support business needs.

The further intent is to ensure students have useful knowledge, understanding and skills required for employment and developing the behaviours and attributes needed to progress and succeed in education and in work.

Students are encouraged to develop their **love of reading** and literacy skills on this course, by reading related technological news and articles around emerging technologies and the threat of cyber security attacks.

Students are encouraged to develop their **numeracy** on this course by learning how to use data analysis software to create business reports with the use of formulas, forecasting and modelling.

Suggested next step **destinations** after completion include Level 3 Technical IT or Extended Project Qualification.

Related to all **careers** which include elements of IT knowledge and skill or more specific careers such as IT Technician, Network Engineer, Cyber Security Specialist and Marketing. This intent of the Curriculum is to also provide a good baseline knowledge, skills and understanding for students who undertake an Apprenticeship.

Study Tips

Students will benefit additional study of Information Technology:

- BBC Bitesize - <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/zqmtsbk>
- Quizziz - <https://quizizz.com/>
- Practice Assessments and papers - <https://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/cambridge-technicals/information-technology/assessment/>

Note – these resources are for GCSE IT, but are very useful for preparing for the OCR Information Technology course

Curriculum Overview

This is a one-year course. The learning in Information Technology (*equivalent to 1 GCSE*) is sequenced as follows.

Note: the full Curriculum Plans are available on request to info@nef.tynecoast.academy

Key Topics

- Unit 1: Essentials of IT
- Unit 16: Using Social Media Channels for Business
- Unit 2: Essentials of Cyber Security
- Unit 17: Using Data Analysis Software

Year 12:

Half Term 1:

- What hardware and software components are used in IT?
- Can you name all the social media channels? How are they used in business? Which social media channels are used to meet specific business needs?

Half Term 2:

- How do you install and upgrade hardware and software? Can you define and explain uses of the World Wide Web (WWW)? What are the benefits of using IT in business?
- What content is created for social media channels to meet business needs?

Half Term 3:

- What is the purpose and importance of Cyber Security? What are the threats and vulnerabilities that can result in cyber security attacks?
- How is data used within business? What types of data is stored? Where does this data come from? What is the purpose and characteristics of this data?

Half Term 4:

- How can software be used to analyse data for business purposes? How do businesses use data analysis? How can you present the results of data analysis to the client? What are the benefits and drawbacks of each presentation method?

Half Term 5:

- A period of revision in preparation for the final IT Level 2 formal exams.

Half Term 6:

- This is the formal exam period for all Year 12 students following Level 2 courses.