

# Information & Communication Technology

**EXAMINING BOARD:**WJEC

**ACCREDITATION:** GCSE –Grades A\* - G

**NATURE OF THE SUBJECT:**

ICT is an integral part of everyday life which we could not live without. It is not just about using a computer to write a word-processed report, but more a method of world-wide communication, entertainment, control and ingenuity. If you are interested in finding out about how to use specialist computer software, how ICT can be used effectively in business and how ICT affects you and everyone around you - then read on.

This course provides you with the opportunity to learn how to use a range of specialist application software effectively. You will learn how to produce business documents, websites, interactive presentations and even build your own fully functional computerised system. You will also gain an insight into how Information and Communication Technology is used, particularly by individuals and organisations.

Information and Communications Technology is a highly sought after skill and will be extremely beneficial to you in further education, the world of work or entrepreneurship. This is a new and modernised course that gives you one GCSE and must be chosen in Option B or Option C.

**COURSE CONTENT:**

This course consists of four units. Unit 1 and 3 are assessed by external examination (1 ½ hours), and Unit 2 and Unit 4 are assessed by controlled assessment (22.5 hours practical work with accompanying documentation).

**Unit 1 – Understanding ICT** 20% Examination

This unit will look at new and emerging ICT technologies associated with areas such as entertainment, social networking and games. You will understand the benefits and drawbacks of these technologies along with how they are best used. You will gain an insight of ICT in the future along with how it will affect society.

**Unit 2 – Solving Problems with ICT** 30% Controlled Assessment

This unit involves the study of how ICT tools and applications are used effectively by yourself and organisations. You will learn the skills required to produce professional looking business documents along with the technical knowledge required to produce complex spreadsheet and database systems. You will also learn how to research and report on emerging technologies or ideas.

**Unit 3 – ICT in Organisations** 20% Examination

This unit looks at how and why organisations use ICT. You will gain an understanding of the hardware components of a ‘real life’ system and investigate benefits and drawbacks of ICT in business. You will look at a range of important breakthroughs such as teleworking, networking, data handling and legislation.

**Unit 4 – Developing Multimedia ICT Solutions** 30% Controlled Assessment

This unit will give you the skills needed to develop your own multimedia products such as images, sound, video and animation. You will then learn how to use these products in specialist publications such as websites, E-Posters, E-Magazines and DVD-ROM etc. You will understand that multimedia is an extremely lucrative area of ICT.

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**WHO IS SUITABLE FOR THIS COURSE ?:**

Those students who have an interest in computers and their applications will find this course both enjoyable and challenging. Students need not worry about having a computer at home, as there are plenty of opportunities to use the school's ICT resources both inside and outside of lessons.

ICT skills are now a common requirement in all areas of life worldwide and having studied it to GCSE level will place you at an added advantage wherever you wish to work in the future. You could use this course as a stepping-stone to any career such as a games programmer, systems analyst or graphical designer. You may wish to choose to go on to study ICT, Computing or other subjects in the Sixth Form or College.

**FURTHER INFORMATION:**

Please see: Mr S. Budgen, Mr W. Overton, Mr J. Upton or Miss C. Williams

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