Digital Technology (Formerly ICT)

Entry Requirements

GCSE Course Undertaken	Minimum Grade Required
GCSE Full Course	**B**
GCSE Short Course	**B**

Students can take:

- the AS course as a final qualification; or
- the AS units plus the A2 units for a full GCE A level qualification

The advanced GCE award is based on students' marks from the AS (40%) and the A2 (60%)

Aims:
This specification aims to encourage students to:

- develop a genuine interest in digital technology;
- gain an understanding of the system development process;
- gain an awareness of a range of technologies and an appreciation of the potential impact these may have on individuals, organisations and society;
- participate in developing an application while adhering to the system development process;
- develop an understanding of the consequences of using digital technology on individuals, organisations and society, and of social, legal, ethical and other considerations of using digital technology;
- apply their skills to relevant work-related scenarios;
- carry out research and development, and present their findings in different formats;
- develop advanced study skills that help them to prepare for third level education; and
- demonstrate that they understand and can apply key concepts through challenging internal and external assessments.

For further information about this CCEA AS and A Level ICT specification please visit: www.ccea.org.uk

Unit AS 1: Approaches to System Development
In this unit, students develop knowledge and understanding of the various approaches to the development of complex systems, the key stages in the development process and the outputs produced at each stage. The content of this unit underpins the learning that will take place in each of the three subsequent units.

Unit AS 2: Fundamentals of Digital Technology
In this unit, students develop knowledge and understanding of the fundamentals of any system such as data representation, computer architecture, software and the user interface.

Unit A2 1: Information Systems
In this unit, students develop knowledge and understanding of information systems. It acts as an extension to Unit AS 2: Fundamentals of Digital Technology for students progressing from AS Level.

Unit A2 2: Application Development
In this unit, students have the opportunity to become involved in a real-world situation where they can apply their skills, knowledge and understanding of digital technology to solve a problem for a specified client.

Students apply their practical skills to produce a solution and associated detailed documentation for the client.

Scheme of Assessment
The structure of the AS and A Level courses are summarised below:

Unit	Assessment	Weightings	Completion
AS 1: Approaches to System Development	1 hour 30 minutes external examination paper	50% of AS 20% of A2	Summer of Year 13
AS 2: Fundamentals of Digital Technology	1 hour 30 minutes external examination paper	50% of AS 20% of A2	Summer of Year 13
A2 1: Information Systems	1 hour 30 minutes external examination paper	40% of A Level	Summer of Year 14
A2 2: Application Development	Internal Assessment of a portfolio	20% of A Level	Summer of Year 14