



WJEC Level 1/2 Vocational Award in ICT Tech Award

Why is the study of ICT important?

In the ever changing digital world, digital media is the method of choice for people to access information. Vocational ICT is IT / Business sector-focused, including digital design , spreadsheet, databases and automation. It is a fantastic hybrid of creative ICT with an underlying theme of sector requirements. Not only is it about creating suitable products for audience and purpose, but it requires being able to justify decisions as to the reasons for design choices and how they are a suitable medium within an industry.

Across the study of Vocational ICT you will learn about essential working practices for working in the IT / Business sectors. This includes developing an understanding of the client brief, time frames, deadlines and preparing products that meet the needs of the client. As well as learning how to plan and design a product to meet the brief of a user, you will learn spreadsheets, image design, databases and skills to create automated systems. How we communicate and interact with technology has changed significantly in recent years. Having the skills to demonstrate knowledge and ability to communicate effectively in the digital world.

What skills will the study of ICT teach you?

The skills you will learn through Vocational ICT include:

- Communication
- Coping with rapid changes in technology
- Critical thinking
- Designing, programming, testing and evaluating software systems
- Learning independently
- Numeracy and data handling
- Problem solving
- Research
- Taking on responsibility
- Time management

What will you know and understand from your study of ICT?

- How to use planning methods to design a product.
- How to interpret client requirements and produce plans with timescales to meet these requirements
- The different hardware and software requirements for a range of products
- What legislation applies to creating digital media products
- What the different formats that are used in media products are used for and when it is appropriate to use them
- How media products need to be adapted to suitable for a range of different devices



OPEN ELEMENT SUBJECT OVERVIEW

- How connectivity methods affect user experience and how this needs to be factored when designing media products
- What types of user interface there are and how their design needs to consider house style, layout and accessibility.

How can you deepen your understanding of ICT?

Vocational ICT is all around us, and taking an interest in the products and systems that are used everyday by businesses. How do businesses track customers? How do businesses communicate effectively with customers and suppliers? Why is a document structured in a certain way? These questions will further deepen your understanding within the subject. Immersing yourself in ICT will certainly help deepen your knowledge and understanding of products and systems.

How are you assessed in ICT?

There are 6 assessment points each year that we term Praising Stars[©]. We assess how students at their current stage of study are on track to reach their end of stage targets which are formulated on aspirational expectation from their KS2 starting points. We make an informed prediction from our holistic assessments based on our subject mapping of expectation across the Vocational ICT curriculum.

Vocational ICT is assessed through a range of internal and external assessment. There are two units in total. Unit 1 (exam) contributes 40% and Unit 2 (coursework) contributes 60% towards the overall qualification. There is a written assessment and then three internally assessed and externally moderated coursework units. The course units consist of an exam, ICT in Society, and coursework, ICT in Context. The coursework is broken down into 4 areas of study; databases, spreadsheets, image design and document automation.

Key Assessment Objectives

AO1 - Demonstrate knowledge and understanding from across the specification.

AO2 - Apply skills (including practical skills), knowledge and understanding in a variety of contexts and in planning and carrying out investigations and tasks.

AO3 - Analyse and evaluate information, making reasoned judgements and presenting conclusions

How can ICT support your future?



OPEN ELEMENT SUBJECT OVERVIEW

There are a wide range of ICT & media based courses offered to post-GCSE students at colleges and sixth form providers including our own. Within Outwood we offer an ICT qualification that utilises the skills learnt in Vocational ICT and this is deliberate to ensure progression between stages of study. Due to Vocational ICT being a wide ranging curriculum this allows for many avenues to be explored into higher and further education. There are a vast range of courses offered at university that target digital media, either through the production, design or publicising through this media.

Study of ICT can lead to a wide range of careers:

- Secondary School Teacher
- Graphics design
- Data analyst
- Digital content producer
- Systems engineer
- Web marketing manager

ICT Course Overview

Term	Year 1	Year 2
Autumn 1	Spreadsheets - Introduction Hardware & Software	Coursework - Requirements and testing Photoshop recap
Autumn 2	Spreadsheets - Charts & Testing Data Capture	Coursework - Image creation Spreadsheets recap
Spring 1	Creating Images The use of logos and the golden ratio	Coursework - spreadsheets
Spring 2	Automated Documents Practice assessment to a client brief	Coursework - Automated documents
Summer 1	Databases Unit 1 recap	Examination preparation
Summer 2	Databases Practice Assessments	