Year 11 – ICT

ICT is increasingly prevalent in today's society and the demand for digital skills is highly valued by employers.

Demand for digital skills is greater than ever: Here's how employers and staff must adapt

A shortage of workers with expertise has created a digital skills deficit. This is what needs to be done

SYLVIA KLIMAKI | Thursday 5 March 2020 15:34

https://www.standard.co.uk/futurelondon/skills/digital-skills-gap-employers-staff-a4378486.html

Should you decide to study ICT as a subject next year, you will be developing the necessary skills and knowledge of applications to help equip you with these vital digital skills.

The course is studied over two years with the specification being designed to encourage candidates to become discerning users of ICT, developing a broad range of ICT skills and knowledge and understanding of ICT.

This should form a basis for progression into further learning, including progression from AS to A2, and/or employment.

Specifically, it encourages candidates to develop:

- the capacity for thinking creatively, innovatively, analytically, logically and critically;
- the skills to work collaboratively;
- the ability to apply skills, knowledge and understanding of ICT in a range of contexts to solve problems;
- an understanding of the consequences of using ICT on individuals, organisations and society and of social, legal, ethical and other considerations on the use of ICT;
- an awareness of emerging technologies and an appreciation of the potential impact these may have on individuals, organisations and society.

For a detailed overview of the course and the assessment objectives see here

Textbook : Essential ICT A Level: Essential ICT for WJEC AS Level (Student book) (Essential ICT) Paperback – 3 Aug. 2008 by Stephen Doyle (Author)

The following resources should help further develop your interests as well as preparing you for 'A' Level study and beyond.

The resources include a selection of websites and videos that you may find useful in your preparation. During Key Stage 5 one of the best ways to stand out is through the amount of independent study you undertake outside of the classroom. Further study enables you to get an increased awareness of your area of interest irrespective of your future plans.

During Year 12 the practical coursework accounts for 40% of the AS course and focuses on Presenting Information using MS Office applications.
There will also be elements of multimedia incorporated along with Visual Basic for Applications.
These websites are an ideal starting point or refresher for some of these skills that are included within the course.

Suggested websites:

1. **Learn Office 365: https://docs.microsoft.com/en-gb/learn/**
2. **MS Publisher: https://support.office.com/en-gb/publisher**
3. **VBA for Applications: https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/office/vba/library-reference/concepts/getting-started-with-vba-in-office**
4. **Mail Merge using Access with Word https://tinyurl.com/y8s2cgm8**

The theory element is assessed by a written examination and is based on Information Systems and Uses and Impact of ICT. Section B of the examination will be examined on a Spreadsheet Model that you have designed and produced.

There are a number of websites that will help to supplement the course and help you keep abreast of emerging technologies and developments.

Suggested websites:

1. **BBC Click: https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b006m9ry**
2. **Wired: https://support.office.com/en-gb/publisher**
3. **Computer Weekly: https://www.computerweekly.com/**
4. **Tech Radar: https://www.techradar.com/news/computing**
5. **Technology Review: https://www.technologyreview.com/**
6. **Computing: https://www.computing.co.uk/type/news**

Some videos that might be of interest that relate to the theory content

Emerging Technologies – How might the world look in 2050?

Technology is evolving at an ever increasing rate. What might our world look like in 2050?

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Oa9aWdcCC4o

Big Data - Kenneth Cukier: Big data is better data

Self-driving cars were just the start. What's the future of big data-driven technology and design? In a thrilling science talk, Kenneth Cukier looks at what's next for machine learning -- and human knowledge.

https://www.ted.com/talks/kenneth_cukier_big_data_is_better_data

Augmented Reality and Virtual Reality

Both Augmented Reality and Virtual Reality have become embedded within our lives. What is the difference?

https://tinyurl.com/ychx99kt

Cloud Computing

What is Cloud Computing? Why is it used?

https://tinyurl.com/y8bp8dyu

Computer Networks

Chances are that if you are reading this then you are doing so via a network. If you're unsure of your LANS and your WANS then this video gives a great introduction into how and why we use Computer Networks

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3QhU9jd03a0