



IT Practitioners (Software Development)

Student Guide Level 3 BTEC National Certificate

What is the Level 3 BTEC National Certificate for IT Practitioners (Software Development)?

The qualification will give you the essential knowledge, understanding and skills to progress into a specific area of work which will incorporate the use of ICT, and escalate to a more responsible job if already in employment.

The nature of the course structure allows the qualification to be flexible and adapted to meet your interests and aspirations. There are four compulsory core units plus a maximum of eight more units from a choice of specialist areas (to total 720 guided learning hours).

The focus of the course is up to you, it can be software design and development, technical support or IT in business. Please note that the units studied may vary to meet local or learner needs.

Where will this qualification take me?

Employment opportunities

With the international recognition of BTEC courses such as this, you can progress straight into employment. If successful there are a wide variety of potential careers that you can explore, within sectors such as systems networking, product development, technical support, technical sales, telecommunications and hardware engineering. Jobs that are commonly taken after completion of the qualification are: IT product developer, computer games designer and systems analyst.

Further vocational and academic qualifications

The BTEC National Certificate for IT Practitioners (Software Development) has the equivalence of two GCE A Levels, and it is possible for you to progress further into higher education, as successful BTEC National qualifications give UCAS points for university applications.

How long will it take me to complete this qualification?

The length of the course is dependant on the centre. Normally, it will take two academic years to complete but it can be studied for three years or more.

What are the entry requirements?

The entry requirements for the Edexcel Level 3 BTEC National Certificate for IT Practitioners (Software Development) are laid down by individual centres. Fundamentally you should have a broad education including, for example, a BTEC First for ICT Practitioners and/or four GCSEs (graded C or above) and, in addition, the interest and potential to succeed in achieving the qualification.

How can I find out more?

Ask your careers teacher or adviser or your local school or college for more information or see the Edexcel website – www.edexcel.org.uk/btec

Contact us

www.edexcel.org.uk/about/contact

About Edexcel

Edexcel is a Pearson company and the UK's largest awarding body. We offer academic and vocational qualifications and testing to more than 25,000 schools, colleges, employers and other places of learning here and in over 100 countries worldwide.