Leicester College

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Computer Systems, Security and Web BTEC Extended Certificate level 3

Course Overview

This is a one-year study programme will give you UCAS points equivalent to one A level that will develop your technical skills in areas of web design, computer systems and computer security. During the course, you will develop skills and knowledge in the use of industry standard packages. If you are aged 16 to 18, you will be enrolled on a study programme. This will include retaking GCSEs or undertaking Functional Skills in English and maths if you haven't already achieved a grade 4 or above. You will take part in activities that help you to develop your personal skills, such as building your character and confidence. This will help you to live well and move into your chosen career. These activities will be timetabled as will work experience and placement. You can also choose to take part in other activities. For other age groups, activities will be tailored to your needs.

What you will learn

During the programme, you will study the following subjects. Unit 1: Principles of Computer Science, where you will explore and develop programs, handling data within a program and processes and systems to solve problems. Unit 2: Fundamentals of Computer Systems, you will know who and why computer components and the data they use, has an impact on the work of computing professionals. You will look at the role of hardware and software as part of a computer system both individually and together, to store and process data. Unit 7 will be looking at IT Systems Security and Encryption. In this unit, you will investigate many different types of security attacks, the vulnerabilities that exist and how you can defend IT systems of organisations. Finally, in Unit 15 you will be learning about website development using scripting languages such as Hypertext Markup Language (HTML), Cascading Style Sheets (CSS) and JavaScript, and simple text editors. You will also reflect on webpage design using a testing and review process.

Entry Requirements

Entry to this course requires one reference. It is desirable that you can demonstrate 90% attendance at your last place of work or study. You are required to have three GCSEs grade 4 (C) or above to include English and maths.

How you will be assessed

Assessment is via exam and coursework and completed over one year. You will need to evidence your work that your skills and understanding are sufficient to pass each unit or achieve higher grades. Grades are pass, merit and distinction.

Course Fees

This is a full level 3 course. If you turn 19 before the end of this academic year you will not be eligible for funding to study any further level 3 qualifications. If you wish to study further level 3 qualifications, you will have to pay for them or take out an Advanced Learner Loan to cover the cost of fees. Simply apply by clicking apply now at the top of the page.

Course Progession

On successful completion of the one-year programme, you could progress to the one-year diploma .Successful completion of this one year course would give you the equivalent of two A levels. If you attained your maths and English at grade 4 you could apply to do a T level in Digital Support Services.

What Happens Next

Apply online via the College website, or if your school uses the Positive Steps @16 (PS16) application system please apply through this and speak to your careers advisor if you are unsure. You will need details of your qualifications and employment history, a reference, and a personal statement to complete your application. Once your application has been successfully processed, you will be sent a conditional offer and be invited to a Welcome Event at the College to meet your tutors, learn more about your chosen course of study and tour the facilities. You will then need to confirm your acceptance of the course offered to you.

Course Details

Course Code	P00157
Start Date	07/09/2026
Study Hours	Full Time
Duration	1 year
Campus	St Margaret's Campus
Level	3

Apply Here