

BTEC Foundation Diploma Computing level 3

Course Overview

This course will develop your software and web development skill and prepare you for a career in the field of software development, web development or associated industries. During the course, you will develop skills in the use of industry-standard software packages including Visual Studio and Adobe Creative Suite. If you are aged 16-18, you will be enrolled on a study programme, which 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 also be required to complete a work experience placement and an employability programme.

What you will learn

You will study the following subjects: principles of computer science, which will look at handling data within a program to examining the features of effective programming; fundamentals of computer systems, where you will learn about hardware and software installation; where you will learn about the technologies used in the coding industry; web development where you will learn about HTML, JavaScript and CSS and other development tools to produce an effective website. You will also study the application of social media and encryption techniques as well as security. In addition to the specialist course content, your study programme's English and maths (if applicable) and work experience aspects are important for applying to university, an apprenticeship or employment.

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 four GCSEs grade 4 (C) or above to include English and maths. Consideration will be given to all applicants over the age of 19 who do not hold formal English and maths qualifications.

How you will be assessed

Assessment is via coursework completed over one year. You will need to evidence in 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.

Course Progression

On successful completion, you can apply to go onto the extended diploma (C0881), to achieve an equivalent of three A levels. You may then choose to study a higher education course at university or go on to a higher national diploma at Leicester College. There could also be employment opportunities in trainee positions within programming such as IT support, network administration and support, or you could progress onto an IT and telecoms professional apprenticeship.

What Happens Next

If you are at school speak to your teacher or careers adviser for advice on applying. 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	P00159
Start Date	07/09/2026
Study Hours	Full Time
Duration	1 year
Campus	St Margaret's Campus
Level	3

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