

KS5 Cambridge Technical Introductory Diploma in IT

Assessment Overview:

360 GLH equivalent to one A-level in terms of size.

2 x 90 and 3 x 60 GLH units

- Two externally examined units and a choice of three further units which are either examined or centre assessed and moderated by OCR.

Content Overview:

Learners will be able to develop the core knowledge, skills and understanding the IT sector required in the IT sector, and develop further skills by completing a range of units through a choice of these specialist pathways:

- IT Infrastructure Technician
- Emerging Digital Technology Practitioner
- Application Developer
- Data Analyst

Unit 1: Fundamentals of IT (Examined Unit)

A sound understanding of IT technologies and practices is essential for IT professionals. Information learnt in this unit will create a solid foundation in the fundamentals of hardware, networks, software, the ethical use of computers and how businesses use IT. After completing this unit, the knowledge, skills and understanding you have developed will underpin their study for the additional units. Knowledge gained in the study of this unit will also help prepare you for relevant industry qualifications such as CompTIA A+, CompTIA Mobility+ and Cisco IT Essentials.

Unit 2: Global Information (Examined Unit)

The purpose of this unit is to demonstrate the uses of information in the public domain, globally, in the cloud and across the Internet, by individuals and organisations. You will discover that good management of both data and information is essential and that it can give any organisation a competitive edge. This unit will provide you with a greater understanding of how organisations use information sources both internally and externally and the types of information they will encounter. The skills gained by completing this unit will give them knowledge of the functionality of information and how data is stored and processed by organisations. They will also learn about how individuals use information of various types. This unit will help you to understand the legislation and regulation governing information which flows in to and out of an organisation and the constraints and limitations that apply to it. They'll also learn the relationship between data and Information. Knowledge gained in the study of this unit will also help prepare you for relevant industry qualifications such as VM Ware.

Unit 6: Application Development (Practical Unit)

The world is increasingly reliant on applications that help individuals, business and organisations achieve specific activities or purposes. In this unit you will explore potential ideas for a new application and develop the fundamental design for it. They will then develop the designs for an application and how users will interact with it. The application that you will design could be for any sector and for any purpose. They will have the opportunity to present their ideas, prototype them and gain feedback before refining their design. Besides the technical knowledge that you will gain about designing an application, they will also learn key transferable skills about liaising with clients, questioning people effectively to gain the information they need to develop successful designs, and presenting their ideas to an audience and getting feedback from them. This unit is mandatory to the Application Developer pathway due to its relevance to the job role of an application developer. The unit supports the development of skills, knowledge and understanding appropriate to a wide range of job roles requiring the development of applications within mobile technology, business software, graphics, games and web design to name but a few.

Unit 8: Project Management

This unit will provide you with the opportunity to understand and use various project planning skills and techniques, thereby enabling them to become more effective in the workplace. The key to any project being a success is the planning and management that takes place. Project management skills are essential transferable skills that can be used for all projects whether it's traditional methodologies or more recently adopted agile approaches within the IT development environment. These skills can be adapted and used even on the smallest 'tasks' during the planning and implementation stages. Regardless of your job role, you will often be called upon to participate in projects for a wide variety of reasons, consequentially this unit is optional within all four pathways. This unit will assist you in developing your skills, knowledge and understanding of different project methodologies and the key factors that can influence the success or failure of a project. Knowledge gained in the study of this unit will also help prepare you for relevant industry qualifications such as CompTIA Project+.

Unit 9 – Product Development

The purpose of this unit is to prepare you to undertake product development activities. They will learn about different product design methodologies and the role of the product development life cycle. In addition, they'll discover the factors that influence product developments. The key to any product development being a success is the analysis, client review, design, testing and final acceptance that takes place. The skills that you will learn can be applied to the development of any product, large or small. They will use product development skills and work through the product development life cycle. It is recommended that you develop a product alongside the other units they are studying so that they can explore the units holistically as a wider project. This will align to their chosen pathway and support progression into their chosen field within the IT industry. Whether you are building a network, developing a website, developing a system for data analytics or creating an Augmented or Virtual Reality resource, they are all products. It is therefore important that you understand the processes required for the development of products and that they can apply them to a variety of situations.