

BTEC IT Users (ITQ)

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Without a doubt, anyone who wants to operate effectively in today's digital world needs to have good IT skills and know how to apply them. However, research carried out recently by the CBI indicated that only 17% of employers are 'very satisfied' with the IT skills of school leavers.*

The BTEC ITQ is a suite of IT User qualifications developed by e-skills UK (the Sector Skills Council for IT) in consultation with employers. It is very 'hands-on' for learners and is designed to develop the IT skills and competencies they need in the 21st century.

*Source: The Confederation of British Industry (CBI), Education and Skills survey 2010, Ready to Grow: business priorities for education and skills.



Why teach BTEC ITQ?

Employability skills: The up-to-date content is interesting to teach, and gives your learners important employability skills.

Excellent progression: Available from Entry 3 to Level 3, there are clear progression pathways for learners whatever their starting point.

Flexibility and choice: With three sizes of qualification, 90+ units, a year-round registration model, and it can be customised to suit learners' needs and interests.

Clear assessment: There are no tests or formal examinations. The units are highly practical and emphasise 'doing' rather than 'writing about'.



How BTEC ITQ works

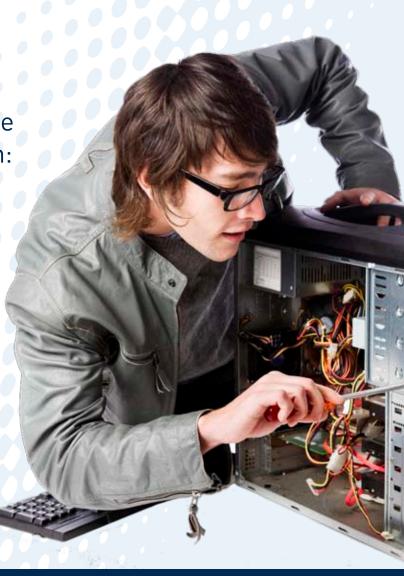
BTEC ITQ comes in three sizes – Award, Certificate and Diploma. It has four levels – Entry 3, Level 1, Level 2 and Level 3.

Learners achieve credits for the units they complete. They can mix and match units at different levels and accumulate credit at their own pace. The table below shows the minimum credit value required for each qualification:

	Entry 3 Minimum Credit Value	Level 1 Minimum Credit Value	Level 2 Minimum Credit Value	Level 3 Minimum Credit Value
Award	6	9	10	12
Certificate	13	13	16	25
Diploma	N/A	37	38	39

To find out more about mixing and matching units of different levels within the qualification, **download the specification**

HOW BTEC



The Curriculum

Because BTEC ITQ is so flexible there are many ways of fitting it into your curriculum.

- An ITQ Award is small enough to be studied alongside other qualifications, as part of a broad and balanced curriculum, or as part of your Foundation Learning programme. It can also be delivered as a short, stand-alone programme – learners can be registered on the course at any time without incurring late fees.
- There are three Fundamental units which cover the same content as Functional Skills ICT. This means that a learner who has completed these three units should be equipped to pass the Functional Skills ICT test following some examination preparation.
- These Fundamental units are covered within Unit One of our DiDA and new GCSE ICT qualifications, acting as a stepping stone for learners wishing to step up to GCSE or DiDA.
- The ITQ Diploma can be delivered as the main component of a one year, full-time, post-16 programme. However, it also forms the key component of an IT User Apprenticeship at Levels 2 and 3.

THE CURRICULUM

Assessment & Approval

Assessment

Learners compile a portfolio of evidence, in a digital format where possible, to demonstrate their competence. There are no formal written examinations. Portfolios are internally assessed. At Entry 3 and Level 1 they are subject to our Lead Internal Verification process. At Levels 2 and 3 they are subject to external standards verification. There is no requirement for staff to be qualified assessors or internal verifiers.

Approval

If you're a BTEC approved centre you can log onto **Edexcel Online** to get instant approval to offer BTEC ITQ. If you're an Edexcel customer, but new to BTECs, log on to Edexcel Online, select the BTEC tab and complete the online declaration of intent. If you are not already an approved Edexcel centre call **0844 576 0026** to find out how to get approval.



ASSESSMENT & APPROVAL Support

We know that good help and advice matter to you. That's why we have put together a first rate support package for BTEC ITQ.

ICT Subject Advisor for ICT

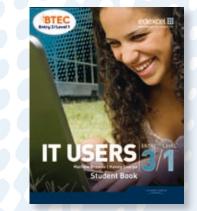
Gareth Byrne, our Subject Advisor, is there to deal directly with any questions you may have. Email him direct at ICTSubjectAdvisor@edexcelexperts.co.uk or discuss ICT with colleagues on the Online ICT Community Forum

ITQ Level 1 and Level 2 Manual

This guide explains what the assessment requirements are for a number of popular units and provides clarification on what evidence learners are expected to produce for these units.

Sample assignments and other free resources

Free, downloadable model assignments are available to help you generate evidence. You can customise them to suit your learners' needs.



Resources

The Entry 3/Level 1 IT Users Student Book is tailored to the needs of learners working at Entry 3 and Level 1 – helping them engage with their studies and achieve their potential. View sample pages and order an inspection copy

Training

There's a comprehensive programme of face-to-face and online training devised to help you plan and deliver BTEC ITQ. Visit the online training directory

SUPPORT