

## Statement of Purpose

### 500/6569/5 – Pearson BTEC Level 1 Diploma for IT Users (ITQ) (QCF)

#### Who is this qualification for?

This level 1 qualification is aimed at students over the age of 14 working at this level who want to develop the knowledge and skills needed to progress to further study and ultimately to employment in the IT or a related sector. It provides an introduction to the sector, enabling students to make informed future progression choices while developing and applying their knowledge and acquiring a range of relevant practical, communication and personal development skills.

#### What will the learner study as part of this qualification?

All the content of the qualification, relates directly to the skills, knowledge and understanding needed to support students in progressing to further study in the IT sector. All students study the improving productivity using IT mandatory unit. Students can then choose from a broad range of optional units providing an introduction to the range of IT software and applications available. The range of units covers the internet, email, audio, video, design and data management applications.

#### What knowledge and skills will the student develop as part of this qualification and how might these be of use and value in further studies?

By developing the sector knowledge and skills outlined above, students will be well prepared for progression to a level 2 IT related qualification.

The portfolio-based approach to assessment will also support the development of communication skills such as extended writing and drafting, critical skills of analysis, team-working, working from a prescribed brief, working to deadlines, presenting information effectively, accurately completing tasks and processes and study skills such as research and time management. These skills will help support progression to level 2 and any future chosen course.

#### Is this qualification available in an apprenticeship?

This is a level 1 qualification and is not available as part of an apprenticeship.

#### What are the qualification outcomes?

The primary outcome of this qualification is to support students' progression to the next level of learning by developing their knowledge and skills in IT which will support further study. In addition the practical nature of the qualification will suit students who are returning or re-engaging with learning and need to consolidate their learning, social and employability skills before considering entering work.

#### What higher level learning will this qualification lead to?

Students who complete this qualification may progress to the Pearson BTEC Level 1/Level 2 First Award/Certificate/Extended Certificate/Diploma in Information and Creative Technology or

use their acquired transferable skills to progress to other vocational related sectors such as Business or Retail.

### **Specific Pearson Level 2 related qualifications are listed below**

BTEC IT Users (ITQ) Level 2 (BTEC IT Users ITQ)

Computer Science (GCSE)

Creative and Digital Media (England) (BTEC Apprenticeships)

Edexcel Level 1 Digital Applications (CiDA/DiDA) (2014) (Digital Applications)

Edexcel Level 2 Digital Applications (CiDA) (2012) (Digital Applications)

Edexcel Level 2 Digital Applications (DiDA) (2014) (Digital Applications)

ICT Systems and Principles (L2) (BTEC Specialist Qualifications)

Information and Creative Technology (2012) NOF (BTEC Firsts)

Information Technology (Specialist) (L2) (BTEC Specialist Qualifications)

IT Application Specialist (England) (BTEC Apprenticeships)

IT User Skills (L2) (NVQ and Competence Based Qualifications)

IT Software Web & Telecoms Professionals (BTEC Apprenticeships)

### **Why choose the Diploma sized qualification?**

The BTEC Level 1 Diploma for IT Users provides a comprehensive introduction to the sector and is appropriate for students who have a clear intention to work within the IT or related industries. By studying the diploma, students will secure a strong foundation of knowledge and skills in preparation for higher level learning.

Pearson offers both the Award and Certificate sized qualifications for IT Users for students who wish to study the subject in less depth due to their learning needs and/or the make-up of their wider learning programme. The Award for example provides a brief introduction, whereas the Certificate provides a broader coverage of the sector. The Diploma is significantly larger in size (37 Credits) than the Certificate (13 credits) and the Award (9 Credits). The different sizes will determine the depth and breadth of sector knowledge and skills covered. The Award provides a brief introduction to the sector, whereas the Certificate provides a broader coverage.

The Diploma is for those students with a clear intention of progressing into employment in the sector. Whereas the Certificate and Award allow for study of additional subjects for those students who may want to have a more mixed programme giving them experience of more than one sector ahead of choosing one for further study or training. Students may wish to study IT alongside other disciplines such as business or retail, in these instances, students should consider either the Award or Certificate as alternatives.

Some students will consider the smaller sized qualifications to allow additional time to be spent on securing English and Mathematics skills, so that they are prepared to progress to the next stage.

Students should consider the appropriate sized qualification according to their learning needs and their intended progression destination.

Pearson offers a range of similar qualifications for students wishing to enter employment or study more specialist content that may lead to specific job roles:

Edexcel Level 1 Digital Applications (CiDA/DiDA) (2014) (Digital Applications)

Further information on the above qualifications can be found on the Pearson website

### **Who supports this qualification?**

This qualification is supported by Pearson centres including:

- The Manchester College
- Barking and Dagenham College
- Lesoco

**Further Information**

<http://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/skills-qualifications/btec-it-users-itq/level-1.html>