
AQA GCSE ICT to Pearson Certificate in Digital Applications (CiDA) Mapping Document

Introduction

If you are thinking of switching from AQA GCSE ICT to the Pearson Edexcel Certificate in Digital Applications (CiDA) specification, this document is an easy reference guide to help you identify key comparisons and differences between the specifications. Where there is no direct overlap of content between the AQA specification and the CiDA specification, this content has not been included.

The Pearson Edexcel CiDA specification aims to:

- equip young people with the knowledge, understanding and skills they need to design and make effective digital products for others to use.
- enable young people to use digital tools as a means of expression to inform, persuade and entertain.
- foster young people's creativity and develop their independent learning skills.
- challenge young people to reflect on what they produce and strive for excellence.
- increase young people's awareness of their responsibilities in the digital world and their respect for other people's rights.
- equip young people with professional, real-world skills in planning, project management and communication.
- give young people the knowledge, understanding and skills they need to support future learning and exploit the creative digital industries.

Specification map: from 2012 AQA GCSE Information & Communication Technology (ICT) (4520) to CiDA

2012 AQA GCSE		CiDA Unit 1	CiDA Unit 2	CiDA Unit 3	CiDA Unit 4
3.2: A range of ICT tools and techniques					
3.2.3 Operating systems and user interfaces	Operating systems			Statement 2.9 standard way of working covers file management	Statement 2.9 standard way of working covers file management
	User interface				
	File/folder organisation				
3.2.4 Applications software	Use of application software	Students may decide to use proprietary and open source software to develop digital products			
	Proprietary and open source software				
	Hosted applications	Students may decide to use hosted applications to develop digital products			
	Generic features of software (appearing as reasonably common features)	Students may decide to use generic features to develop digital products			
3.2.5 Word processing, DTP, web design	Specific features and differences between a word processor and DTP	Statement 1.7 content selection and preparation considers how content can be organised using features	Statement 2.3 relates to collecting and creating digital assets. Students will use features to create assets		
	A word processor and DTP				
	Use features of different software packages to organise and present information				
	Presentation software		Statement 2.4 relates to creating multimedia products		

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	Web design software	Web products are developed in this unit, but it does not explicitly state that students must use a piece of web software to create a product		Statement 3.10 relates to exhibiting work in an eportfolio	
	Software for audio, DVD and video players		Statement 2.3 relates to collecting and creating digital assets		
3.2.6 Graphic production and image manipulation	Specific features of graphics manipulation software	Statement 1.7 relates to content selection and preparation. This touches on basic skills, e.g. image compression and creating thumbnail images	Statement 2.3 is concerned with collecting and creating digital assets. Students will learn simple editing techniques	Statement 3.5 is related to the use of drawing tools to create and edit objects; Statement 3.6 is related to the use of image editing tools	
3.3 Society's use of ICT					
3.3.1	Data Protection Act	Students should be mindful of legal and health and safety issues when working with ICT.			
	Computer Misuse Act				
	Copyright law				
	Health & safety issues at work				
	Changing patterns of increased use of ICT				