## Qualifications overview

### IT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Specialism</th>
<th>Entry Level/Level 1</th>
<th>Level 2</th>
<th>Level 3</th>
<th>Levels 4/5</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>IT</td>
<td>Same level as GCSE (for age 14+ and 16+)</td>
<td>BTEC Level 2 in IT</td>
<td>BTEC Level 3 Nationals in Information Technology (2016 and 2017)</td>
<td>Same level as University Year 1/2 (for age 18+)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>BTEC Level 1 First in Information and Creative Technology (2012)</td>
<td>BTEC Level 2 Tech Award in Digital Information Technology*</td>
<td>BTEC Level 3 Nationals in Computing (2017)*</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>BTEC Level 1 Award in Digital Information Technology</td>
<td>BTEC Level 2 Technicals in Digital Technology</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>BTEC Level 1 Award for IT Users (ITQ)</td>
<td>BTEC Level 2 Technicals in IT Support*</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

For help and advice about teaching BTEC IT qualifications email TeachingICT@pearson.com

Apprenticeships and Competency Based Qualifications

In addition to our BTEC qualifications, Pearson also offer a range of apprenticeships and competency based qualifications. Please see website for full details.

* Included in performance tables in England – see website for full details. (Dates in brackets denote first teaching date.)
Qualifications overview

**BTEC Entry Level and Level 1 Introductory**
Age 16+ learners

**Purpose**
Designed to offer skills-based learning for your Entry Level and Level 1 learners so they can build the essential personal, social and technical skills they will need in life and in the workplace. These qualifications offer flexible delivery options including Personal and Social Development, sector specific study or wider vocational study where learners can experience working across several sectors.

**Progression**
- Further study at Level 1
- Level 2 qualifications such as Level 2 Technicals, Tech Awards or GCSEs.

**BTEC Level 1/Level 2 Tech Awards**
Age 14+ learners

**Purpose**
BTEC Tech Awards have been specially designed to be taught alongside GCSEs in schools as part of a Key Stage 4 study programme. They offer your 14-16 year old vocational learners a glimpse into a professional sector and the opportunity to develop transferable skills through practical assignments and tasks.

**Progression**
- Further Level 2 technical study such as BTEC Level 2 Technicals
- A Levels
- Further vocational study at Level 3 e.g. BTEC Level 3 Nationals with a view to going on to employment, an apprenticeship or higher education.

**BTEC Level 1/Level 2 Firsts**
Age 14-16+ learners

**Purpose**
BTEC Firsts are available in a range of sizes across a variety of sectors and offer learners a broad introduction to their chosen specialism.

**Progression**
- Further Level 2 technical study such as BTEC Level 2 Technicals
- Level 3 study such as BTEC Level 3 Nationals or A Levels
- An apprenticeship
- Employment.

**BTEC Level 2 Technicals**
Age 16+ learners

**Purpose**
BTEC Level 2 Technicals are practical, hands-on qualifications designed to help your post-16 learners master the industry-specific skills, knowledge and professional behaviours they will need to start and succeed in their careers. They can be taught as part of a full-time 16-19 study programme alongside other qualifications such as GCSEs or as the technical qualification within an apprenticeship or employment.

**Progression**
- Higher education
- Apprenticeship
- Employment.

**BTEC Nationals**
Age 16+ learners

**Purpose**
BTEC Level 3 Nationals are career-based qualifications designed to give learners the skills and practical knowledge they need to move on to higher education or go straight into employment. They can be taught alongside other level 3 qualifications as part of a wider programme of study or as the main focus of study over two years.

**Progression**
- Higher education
- Apprenticeship
- Employment.

**BTEC Higher Nationals**
Age 18+ learners

**Purpose**
Level 4 BTEC Higher Nationals Certificates (HNCs) and Level 5 BTEC Higher National Diplomas (HNDs) are professional, technical higher education qualifications, and offer specialist vocational pathways. They are designed to equip learners with the professional skills, techniques and personal attributes they will need for the future.

**Progression**
- Level 4 HNC students can progress to further study at Level 5
- Level 5 HND students could progress to a higher education degree course
- Employment.