Where can a BTEC in IT take me?
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A BTEC in Information Technology can give you the practical skills and knowledge to progress to your chosen career.

If you're studying at Key Stage 4, the BTEC Tech Award in Digital Information Technology can give you a solid grounding to get you started. Once you know what you'd like to do, a BTEC National in Information Technology or Computing can help you progress to the role you want.

Take a look at the varied IT sector roles a BTEC can lead to.

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IT Technicians diagnose and fix hardware and software problems for a company’s computer users. IT Technician responsibilities include installing and configuring computer hardware and being the primary point of contact for IT support within a company.

**Skills you’ll need:**

- Problem solving and decision making
- Network architecture
- Computer hardware/software maintenance
- Communication
- Deploy and administer IT systems

**Relevant BTEC:**

All units for the BTEC Nationals in Information Technology are relevant, but **Unit 12: IT Technical Support and Management** will give you a good understanding of the requirements for this role.
As a computer programmer, you’ll write the code that makes software applications functional. You’ll need to know a variety of computer languages and will troubleshoot and test programs as part of your day-to-day role. People with this career work closely with IT staff, managers, and end-users in their organisations to develop, maintain, and test computer programs.

**Skills you’ll need:**

- Problem-solving
- Communication and collaboration
- SQL databases
- Knowledge of computer languages
- Test Driven Development
- Programming/Coding

**Relevant BTEC:**

All units for the BTEC Nationals in Information Technology will support you, but **Unit 4: Programming** will help you progress in this field.
A Computer Network Technician helps businesses build and troubleshoot computer networks. In this role, you’ll be responsible for setup, repair, and troubleshooting of both hardware and software products.

**Skills you’ll need:**

- Problem solving
- Windows 7 - 10 Operating Systems
- Network administration
- Maintain the condition of software and hardware
- Network configuration & connectivity and troubleshooting

**Relevant BTEC:**

All units from the BTEC L3 Nationals in Information Technology will prepare you, but **Unit 1: Information Technology Systems, Unit 12: IT Technical Support and Management**, and **Unit 16: Cloud Storage and Collaboration Tools** from the BTEC L3 Nationals in Information Technology will help you learn some of the skills you’ll need.
Software Support Engineers address technical issues relating to software implementation. Alongside work on functionality and upgrades, they also resolve customer queries. Software support engineers work closely with development teams to identify and resolve technical problems and may also lead training classes to educate customers about software products.

**Skills you’ll need:**

- Analytical and problem-solving skills
- Customer service
- Programming/Coding
- Communication
- Attention to detail
- Software testing

**Relevant BTEC:**

All units from the BTEC L3 Nationals in Information Technology are relevant but completing **Unit 1: Information Technology Systems**, **Unit 4: Programming**, and **Unit 7: Mobile Apps Development** will give you a good understanding of what's required.
Computer support specialists provide help and advice to computer users and organizations. These specialists either support computer networks or they provide technical assistance directly to computer users.

**Skills you’ll need:**

- Customer service
- Problem-solving
- Network administration
- Network configuration & connectivity and troubleshooting
- Windows 7 - 10 Operating Systems
- Maintain the condition of software and hardware
- Communication

**Relevant BTEC:**

All units from the BTEC L3 Nationals in Information Technology will prepare you to become a network support specialist, but take a look at Unit 1: Information Technology Systems, Unit 9: IT Project Management, and Unit 16: Cloud Storage and Collaboration Tools in particular.
Data analysts take the data collected by business and uses it to help companies make better business decisions or transportation costs. They are responsible for collecting and interpreting data and identifying patterns and trends in data sets.

**Skills you’ll need:**

- Problem-solving skills
- Mathematical ability
- Databases
- Attention to detail
- Programming languages
- Spreadsheets
- SQL

**Relevant BTEC:**

All units for the BTEC Nationals in Information Technology will be relevant, but **Unit 5: Data Modeling**, **Unit 19: The Internet of Things**, and **Unit 21: Business Process and Modelling Tools** will help get you on track.
Digital marketers oversee the online marketing strategy for their business. They plan and execute digital (including email) marketing campaigns and design, maintain and supply content for the organisation’s website. As a digital marketer, you’ll also analyse and report on visitor data and devise new ways to market products.

**Skills you’ll need:**

- Web development skills
- Editing and writing
- Analytical skills
- Project management

**Relevant BTEC:**

Build your knowledge and skills for this role by studying **Unit 1: Information Technology Systems** and **Unit 20: Enterprise in IT** from the BTEC L3 Nationals in Information Technology.
Web Developer

As a web developer, you’ll be responsible for designing, coding and modifying websites. Web developers work to create visually appealing sites that feature user-friendly design and clear navigation.

Skills you’ll need:

- Coding and markup language
- Analytical skills

Relevant BTEC:

All units from the BTEC L3 Nationals in Information Technology will prepare you, but **Unit 6: Website Development** will be especially useful for learning how to develop websites.
An IT project manager is the person who manages the timelines and budgets of an information technology project. They ensure that implementation is seamless and their role is varied - projects could take a week or even years.

Skills you’ll need:

- Time management
- Communication
- Problem-solving
- Reporting

Relevant BTEC:

Along with all units for the BTEC Nationals in Information Technology, **Unit 9: IT Project Management** in particular will give you a good understanding of project management in the IT sector.
1st Line Technical Support

As a 1st line technical support worker, you’ll be responsible for providing technical support to external customers, assisting them with hardware and software problems via phone, email or onsite. You’ll need to take ownership of problems and be proactive in helping people with their issues.

Skills you’ll need:

- Communication
- Understanding of computer hardware set-up
- Customers service
- Problem-solving

Relevant BTEC:

If you're planning to work in technical support, Unit 1: Information Technology Systems and Unit 12: IT Technical Support and Management, along with all other units, could be very useful.
Get started with BTEC

If you’d like to find out more about how a BTEC in IT can help you pursue your goals, visit our website to find out about all the qualifications available to you.

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