Quick Guide to the
BTEC Tech Award in Digital Information Technology (2022)

REDEVELOPED FOR 2022

For first teaching in September 2022, this qualification has been redeveloped to meet the new DfE technical requirements, particularly regarding the assessment of Tech Awards. The content and structure are very similar to the previous qualification, with only a few changes made to increase clarity and enhance delivery, so teachers of the current specification will find it easy to transition.

Course level: Level 1/ Level 2

Course size: Total Qualification Time: 150 hours/ Total Guided Learning Hours: 120

QN: 603/7050/6

Content Overview

Component 1: Exploring User Interface Design Principles and Project Planning Techniques

Learners will develop their understanding of what makes an effective user interface and how to effectively manage a project. They will use this understanding to plan, design and create a user interface.

Component 2: Collecting, Presenting and Interpreting Data

Learners will understand the characteristics of data and information and how they help organisations in decision making. They will use data manipulation methods to create a dashboard to present and draw conclusions from information.

Component 3: Effective Digital Working Practices

Learners will explore how organisations use digital systems and the wider implications associated with their use.

Why choose a **BTEC Tech Award in Digital Information Technology**?

This qualification is for learners interested in taking a hands-on course alongside their GCSEs that will offer them an insight into what it is like to work the Digital sector. Digital skills span all industries, and almost all jobs in the UK today require employees to have a good level of digital literacy, putting it increasingly on a par with English and maths skills.

The BTEC Tech Award in Digital Information Technology gives learners a broad introduction to several aspects of 'digital' – from UX and interface design to data management and IT systems – enabling to see what areas they are most keen on and keeping their options wide open for progression.

Through the study of these topics, learners will not only acquire sector-specific applied knowledge and skills but also the processes and attitudes that underpin the sector. Using realistic vocational contexts, learners will have the opportunity to explore, develop and apply highly sought-after key skills such as data management and data protection, project planning, and the design of user interfaces and dashboards as a way to present and interpret data. They'll learn about the iterative design process, cyber security, virtual teams, codes of conduct, and legal and ethical issues. In addition, learners will gain an understanding of relevant employability skills and personal attributes, such as self-management and communication skills and the ability and willingness to evaluate and critically analyse their own performance.

This course complements the learning in GCSEs programmes such as Computer Science. It can also be complementary learning for creative media, engineering and maths. Covering topics and themes that are very relevant to today's digital landscape, it is a perfect stepping-stone into a BTEC National in IT & Computing, a Level 3 Apprenticeship, or the new T Level in Digital Design, Development and Production.

Assessment Overview

Component	GLH	Qualification Weighting	Marks available	Type of assessment	Length of Assessment	Availability
Component 1: Exploring User Interface Design Principles and Project Planning Techniques	36	30%	60	Internal assessment (PSA*) with 4 tasks. Externally moderated	6 hours of supervised sessions	Twice a year: June release for December/January moderation September release for May/June moderation
Component 2: Collecting, Presenting and Interpreting Data	36	30%	60	Internal assessment (PSA*) with 3 tasks. Externally moderated	7 hours of supervised sessions	Twice a year: June release for December/January moderation September release for May/June moderation
Component 3: Effective Digital Working Practices	48	40%	60	External synoptic exam. Externally marked	1 hour 30 minutes	Twice a year in January and May (from 2024)

*Pearson Set Assignments (PSAs) are set by Pearson, marked by the centre, and moderated by Pearson.

The components are interrelated and best seen as part of an integrated whole rather than as distinct study areas.

Complimentary resources and support

- Delivery Guide
- Transition Guide including mapping from previous qualifications
- Sample assessment materials
- ExamWizard
- ResultsPlus
- Marking Training and Marking Standardisation Events
- Getting Started Training Events
- Access to Pearson subject specialist

Choosing a **BTEC Tech Award**

Tech Awards are Level 1/Level 2 courses that are of the **same size and rigour as GCSEs**, **widening learners' options at Key Stage 4**, while keeping all their options open for progression into post-16 education and training. We have developed all our Tech Awards **in consultation with subject specialists and secondary school and FE representatives**, to ensure that they are **engaging** and **fully up to date** with current sector skills, behaviours and knowledge.

With a Tech Award your learners will:

- Get a taste of what a sector is like.

- Gain transferable skills and confidence that will help them in the world today and prepare them for their futures.

- Receive an introduction to vocational study.

- Have opportunities to apply learning from their GCSE subjects to every day and work contexts.

- Build applied knowledge and skills that show an aptitude for further learning, both in the sector and more widely.

> BTEC Tech Awards come from Pearson, the world's leading learning company. Our mission is to help everyone achieve their potential through learning. We do that by providing high quality content and learning experiences, as well as assessments and qualifications that help people build their skills and grow with the world around them.

Embedding learning through application

Our Tech Award qualifications are designed to help learners:

- **Explore** what it's like to work in the sector and gain the underpinning knowledge and skills required to work in it.

- **Develop** key knowledge, skills and behaviours, and learn about essential tools, techniques, and equipment.

- **Apply** their learning to real-life contexts and vocational scenarios in both learning and assessment.

Designed to **make life easier**

Through the design of all of our qualifications we've sought to ensure that the courses are as easy as possible for teachers to deliver and administer, and that they give learners as much opportunity as possible to realistically demonstrate their capability and achieve overall success.

✓ We offer the widest range of Tech Awards, covering 13 unique subject areas, all following the same consistent approach – enabling your school to offer multiple Tech Awards without multiplying complexity.

✓ All components are mandatory, with optionality built in within the content where relevant to the sector, streamlining assessment.

✓ There is a consistent mark scheme structure for each internally assessed component making it easier to apply and standardise.

✓ Assessment is compensatory within components and across the qualification - anywhere learners gain marks, these are added to the total towards a grade. This means grades for each component are no longer restricted to the lowest grade achieved within the component.

✓ There are no minimum grade requirements in any component, so an Unclassified result in any of the components will not prevent a learner from achieving the qualification. This gives your learners more opportunities to achieve and better captures their true ability.

✓ The moderation process for the new Pearson Set Assignments (internal assessments) will create a significant reduction in administration and paperwork – and includes moderator feedback so that you have the opportunity to address any issues with assessment before they impact on the learner's results.

✓ The new Pearson Set Assignments have been based on Authorised Assignment Briefs from current qualifications, so will be familiar to teachers used to the previous qualifications.