BTEC Courses give you real, hands-on experience. They give you the skills today’s employers are looking for.

Peter Jones - Entrepreneur
Why choose this course at Carmel?

The BTEC Level 3 Extended Certificate in IT is a two-year course leading to a qualification the equivalent of one A Level. This is an excellent grounding to go on to further study in an IT-related subject or to seek an apprenticeship/employment. The vocational nature of this course means that there is emphasis on developing practical skill in key areas of IT/Computing.

The assessment of the course is part coursework portfolio (60%) and part external exams (40%).

What will I study?

The mandatory units for this qualification are:

- Information technology systems (externally assessed by written exam)
- Creating systems to manage information (externally assessed in a practical exam)
- Using social media in business
- Data Modelling

Externally assessed units will take place under normal exam conditions and coursework assessed units will require you to complete a number of assignments. Evidence for these assignments can be presented in a variety of formats such as written reports, videos, leaflets, website etc.

To study this course successfully it is important to have an interest in IT/Computing and be disciplined in the production of your coursework. You will also be required to study for the externally assessed exams. You must be willing to explore new ideas and concepts and you must be motivated to use your study periods efficiently to assignments.

This course is ideal for any student who is considering a future in the IT/Computing industry. It will also provide IT knowledge and skills that are transferrable to other areas of work.

I’m enjoying my subjects, especially BTEC Level 3 IT as the students I study with all work together well. Not only this but, when we learn about operating systems, computer systems and do assignments, the work is genuinely very interesting.

I really enjoy doing practical work in IT as it is very engaging and if I’m struggling with anything, my teacher will always offer help. BTEC IT has given me many opportunities including a chance for work experience in the Police Force helping with cyber-security. Studying BTEC IT has really developed my knowledge on computer systems and I believe that one day when I achieve a position in a IT firm, I would have to thank BTEC IT for their support.

When I leave College, I hope to either get a place at the University of Liverpool or an Apprenticeship in a good IT firm.

Charlie Caldwell
Notre Dame Catholic College
Studying: Studying BTEC IT, Business Studies, English Literature
Where does this course lead?

On successful completion of a BTEC Level 3 qualification, learners can progress into employment and/or continue their study in the same subject area at degree level. Here are some examples:

Employment apprenticeships
- IBM Computers
- ZENOS Academy
- NHS – Business administration
- NHS – Nursing/Radiology

Higher Education
BTEC IT students have been accepted onto the following courses:
- Liverpool John Moores
  - Computer Technology
  - Computer Forensics
  - Computer Studies
  - IT & Multimedia Computing
  - Cyber Security
  - Computer Games Technology
- University of Huddersfield
  - Computer Games Programming
- University of Liverpool
  - Computer Information Systems
- Manchester Metropolitan University
  - Computer Forensics and Security
- Chester University
  - Computer Science
- University of Lincoln
  - Games Computing
- Edge Hill University
  - Computer Security and Network Enrichment Opportunities

Work Experience
During your study of BTEC IT, you will have the opportunity to volunteer for some work experience. Our dedicated Work Experience Co-ordinator will advertise suitable positions. These placements can take place during term time as part of your enrichment or sometimes during holiday time.

Previous BTEC learners have undertaken work experience with a local software company, provided social media support for charities and helped with community based projects in the local area. Students often produce newsletters and websites as part of their work experience projects.

BTEC IT and UCAS points
BTEC Level 3 IT courses attract UCAS points just like A Levels.

The table below shows the number of UCAS points available for Diploma qualifications:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Diploma Final Grade</th>
<th>UCAS Points</th>
<th>A Level Equivalent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>D*</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>A*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>E</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Carmel College has a very positive and welcoming environment. I enjoy studying here because it gives me independence whilst still encouraging me to do my best.

The staff are supportive of all their students and will do everything they can to help us achieve our goals. Whether it be going to university or getting a job, the college will help every step of the way.

This college has a completely different environment to secondary school. Students are all treated like adults and given lots of independence. The students here are all friendly which means it’s easy to get along with everyone. I know this because when I first joined I didn’t know anyone but I made friends easily.

BTEC IT is one of my favourite courses. I enjoy it because I find the lessons engaging and it has helped me decide that I want to continue studying IT at university. We are always given both positive and constructive feedback to help us improve. Studying A Levels and BTECs can be stressful but there is plenty of support and help in college to make sure that you succeed to the best of your ability.

Kuntalna Gamage
Savio Salesian College
Studying: BTEC IT,
BTEC Applied Science,
Fine Art
What are the entry requirements for this course?
GCSE grade 4 in ICT or pass in equivalent ICT qualification (if studied) plus GCSE grade 4 in both English Language and Mathematics.

Can I study BTEC IT if I have not taken it at GCSE?
Yes, we will deliver all the skills and knowledge required for this course.

What support will I receive?
All students receive extra support via individual and group tutorials throughout the academic year as required.

What is the department like?
We have 2 dedicated computer suites with wireless internet connection, printing facilities, interactive whiteboards and multi-media projectors. In addition to these we also have a theory classroom.

How successful are Carmel’s BTEC students?
Summer 2019 Examination Results:
96% Distinction* - Merit (Extended Certificate)
79% Distinction* - Merit (Diploma)