

A.level Subject Information

Subject: GCE Applied ICT

What the subject is about:

This is an applied A Level, meaning it is mainly practical; two thirds of the marks are awarded for coursework, the other third is based on ICT theory which is tested using written and on-screen exams. At AS level, students will study the types of information that flows through organisations and will design and create their own business documents, eg. an application form, hotel brochure, online hotel room booking form, etc.

At A2 level students will investigate the systems currently in place in a company to record sales and orders, eg. hand written receipts and order forms. Students will study the problems with this type of system and learn how a computer system could help (this will be tested using a written exam). The coursework elements of A2 will require students to build a relational database system for a real business that will allow them to record sales, and to design and create a website to advertise the business.

Course content and assessment schedule:

Module	Duration	Date Taken	Brief outline of main content. (Identify where coursework or practical forms part or all of a module)
1	Coursework	January Yr 13	Information and Communication (16.6% of A2)
2	2½hr On-line Exam	January Yr 13	Software Applications and Tools, ie. Advanced word-processing, spreadsheet, database and presentational skills examined in a computer-based examination. (16.6% of A2)
3	Course- work	June yr 13	Organisations and Information Systems (16.6% of A2)
4 (Paper 7)	2hr Written Exam	January Yr 14	Investigating Systems (16.6% of A2)
5 (Paper 8)	Coursework	January Yr 14	Database Development (16.6% of A2)
6 (Paper 9)	Coursework	June Yr 14	Web Design and Management (16.6% of A2)

Entry requirements:

Compulsory GCSE subjects	Grade	Desirable subjects	Grade
		GCSE ICT	B

Qualities / skills needed to succeed in the course

Students should be hard-working, with good time management skills and be able to meet deadlines since a large volume of coursework is required for this practical subject. Creative skills (similar to those needed for Art) would also be of value in Applied ICT.

A logical approach to problem solving is desirable at A2 level.

Students must be careful about choosing this subject alongside another subject that is heavily based on coursework as the volume of work to be produced throughout the year could become difficult to manage.