BTEC Level 3 National in IT

What is the BTEC Level 3 National in IT?
This qualification is for post-16 learners who want to continue their ICT education through applied, **practical** learning. You will be given the opportunity to develop your knowledge and skills in **building IT systems** (e.g. websites, databases, games) & learning about **systems management** and **social media**.

Why study IT?
BTEC ICT is a '*must-have*' for every post-sixteen student! In today's world, where technology is constantly changing, individuals will increasingly need **ICT skills**. The impact of ICT on society is enormous and as the percentage of businesses and households connected to communication networks such as the internet grows, so does the need for individuals who can **master** and manipulate these **new technologies**.

What makes a successful ICT student?
- ✓ An interest in how ICT works
- ✓ Creativity when using software packages
- ✓ A questioning, analytical mind
- ✓ Enthusiasm and a willingness to think and work hard

To study this course, what qualifications will I need and in which subjects?
You would benefit most from BTEC ICT if you have six GCSEs at grade 9-4, including a 5 in an ICT or Computing qualification such as the Edexcel Certificate in Digital Applications (CiDA) or GCSE Computing.

What is the structure of the course?

Y12 Units	Y13 Units
Unit 2 – Creating systems to manage information	**Unit 1 –** Information technology systems
Assessment – Controlled assessment (10 hours)	Assessment - Exam
Unit 3 – Using social media	**Unit 6 –** Web development
Assessment - Coursework	Assessment - Coursework

What kind of career does this subject/qualification prepare me for?

- There can be few jobs these days where the use of ICT is not important. Subsequently, people with proven ICT skills, such as a BTEC in ICT, are much in demand by employers locally, nationally and internationally!

- ICT does not tie you in to a particular academic area or career path, but gives you the **skills to cope with technical barriers** that may previously have caused problems. Doctors, lawyers, designers, architects, film directors, business leaders all need to have a basic understanding of technical issues and technical proficiency and BTEC ICT will give you that foundation.

- BTECs at Level 3 are the equivalent to A levels. BTECs are vocational qualifications where **practical learning** is required, rather than traditional academic courses where only theoretical learning is required. Universities have learned that BTECs are a **great alternative** to A-Levels, and very few institutions won't consider BTEC students as candidates – even **Oxford** and **Cambridge** include BTECs as part of their overall course requirements, although usually alongside other qualifications as well. The BTEC Level 3 National in IT has the **same UCAS points** as A levels and is recognised by higher education providers as meeting admission requirements to many relevant courses.