Qualification Title: OCR Level 2 Cambridge Technical Diploma in IT

Qualification Number: 603/0373/6

Who is the OCR Level 2 Cambridge Technical Diploma in IT for?

If you're 16 years old or over and want to study IT, this qualification is for you.

The qualification allows you to study IT in a context that enables you to learn and be assessed in ways that are practical and relevant to the IT sector. It will provide you with the skills, knowledge and understanding to progress onto employment, either directly or through an Apprenticeship (i.e. IT Users, Software, Web and Telecoms Professionals) or on to a Level 3 Tech Level qualification in the IT and computing sector.

The qualification is designed to be taken as part of a study programme alongside other vocational qualifications and GCSEs.

What does this qualification cover?

Everyone will take the following two externally assessed mandatory units:

- Essentials of IT
- Essentials of cyber security

These units will provide you with the core knowledge and understanding that underpins all other internally assessed units. *Essentials of IT* provides you with an overview of the IT sector as you develop your knowledge of hardware, software, installing and upgrading processes, the use of the World Wide Web and the benefits of using IT in business. *Essentials of cyber security* reflects the increasing importance of cyber security in IT related activities and enables you to understand possible cyber threats and how these can be managed.

In addition, you'll take five or six mandatory units, depending on the pathway you choose.

There are three pathways – IT Technical Practitioner Pathway, Digital Software Practitioner Pathway and Digital Business Practitioner Pathway. You'll choose to study one of three specialised pathways depending on the career you wish to pursue. Depending on the pathway you choose the units you take will vary.

Within each pathway there is a synoptic mandatory unit which you will need to complete at the end of your programme of study. This is important because the assessment tasks will require you to draw synoptically on the knowledge, understanding and skills you've developed in other units. In the IT Technical Practitioner Pathway this is Unit 3 – *Building IT systems*. In the Digital Software Practitioner Pathway this is Unit 4 – *Creating programming solutions* for business and in the Digital Business Practitioner Pathway this is Unit 5 – *Creating business solutions*.

What will this qualification lead to?

The IT Technical Practitioner Pathway will lead to specific job roles which include: Information Technology Technician, IT User Support Technician and Network Infrastructure Technician.

The Digital Software Practitioner Pathway will lead to specific job roles which include: Software Tester, Project Administrator and Web Content Maintenance.

The Digital Business Practitioner Pathway will lead to specific job roles which include: Social Media Content Administrator, Social Media Marketer and Data Administrator.

Through studying this qualification you will acquire a range of transferable skills and knowledge that are highly regarded by employers.

This qualification is part of a suite of Cambridge Technicals in IT at Levels 2 and 3. There are no formal entry requirements or prior learning requirements for this qualification.

This is one of three qualifications available in the Level 2 Cambridge Technicals in IT suite:

- OCR Level 2 Cambridge Technical Award in IT
- OCR Level 2 Cambridge Technical Certificate in IT
- **OCR Level 2 Cambridge Technical Diploma in IT (with specialist pathways)**

Normally, you would choose one of the OCR Level 2 Cambridge Technical in IT qualifications because you are aged 16 years or over, are in full-time education but aren't quite ready to study a Level 3 qualification in this sector at this stage.

You can progress to Level 3 where there are six qualifications available:

- OCR Level 3 Cambridge Technical Certificate in IT (equivalent in size to one AS level)
- OCR Level 3 Cambridge Technical Extended Certificate in IT (equivalent in size to one A level)
- OCR Level 3 Cambridge Technical Introductory Diploma in IT (with specialist pathways) (equivalent in size to one A level)
- OCR Level 3 Cambridge Technical Foundation Diploma in IT (with specialist pathways) (equivalent in size to one and a half A levels)
- OCR Level 3 Cambridge Technical Diploma in IT (with specialist pathways) (equivalent in size to two A levels)
- OCR Level 3 Cambridge Technical Extended Diploma in IT (with specialist pathways) (equivalent in size to three A levels)

The Diploma is the largest of the qualifications in the Level 2 suite. As you will need to achieve more units you will increase the breadth and depth of your knowledge, skills and understanding in your chosen pathway which could lead to relevant employment.

The Certification and Award are smaller in size but provide you with the flexibility to achieve other qualifications in your study programme, whether vocational or academic.

Who supports this qualification?

The following employers and professional bodies support this qualification:

- CompTIA UK Ltd
- IBM United Kingdom Limited
- Fujitsu Services Limited

Details of this support can be found on the OCR website:
http://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/by-type/vocational-education-and-skills/purpose-statements-and-letters-of-endorsement/

Further information

For more information on the specification and associated assessment materials please refer to: http://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/vocational-education-and-skills/cambridge-technicals-it-level-2-2017-suite/