QUALIFICATION TITLE - OCR Level 1/2 Cambridge National Certificate in Information Technologies

QUALIFICATION NUMBER – 603/1311/0

OVERVIEW

The collection and communication of data and storing of data/information happens all around us. Technology underpins how it's collected and communicated nearly all of the time. It can be seen in all walks of life, from a wearable fitness tracker recording how many steps you have taken, your mobile phone provider recording your usage to create your bill or an online retailer being able to target you with specific promotions based on your purchase history. Knowing how and why data is gathered and being able to turn raw data into something meaningful is essential as you move through education and into employment. To be able to do this you will need to have the confidence to use a range of information technology that is currently available, as well as being adaptable and resilient enough to deal with the rapid advances.

What will this qualification teach you?

This qualification will teach you what different technologies could be used, why you should use them and how to make best use of them, to gather, store, manipulate and present data; this is known as data management.

You will learn about tools and techniques for use in different digital hardware and software technologies, and how these can be integrated to create digital solutions to manage and communicate data and information. You will also be taught what data and information are and the legal, ethical and moral considerations when using technology to gather, store and present data and information, and how to mitigate the risks of cyber-attacks. Through this qualification you will be able to select and use the most appropriate technology safely and effectively, to complete a data management task, such as a cable TV provider monitoring customers' viewing to make recommendations for additional packages in the customer's subscription.

You will also learn to follow a project life cycle of initiation, planning, execution and evaluation to complete a data management task and use your skills, knowledge and understanding of technology to complete each of the phases of the project life-cycle.

The skills, knowledge and understanding you will develop through this qualification are very relevant to both work and further study. They will support you in a range of subject areas such as A Levels in Business or Geography, or Cambridge Technicals in IT. They can also support your progression into employment through Apprenticeships in areas such as Digital Marketer or Business Administrator.

Who is this qualification for?

You can take this qualification if you are 14 years old and moving into your Key Stage 4 programme of study and looking to combine your GCSE/vocational options with a vocational qualification in information and communication technologies.

If your interests are primarily around the development of computer networks or control systems and/or the creative and innovative design and creation of software programme solutions, then you should consider completing a GCSE in Computer Science. That will help you develop your computational analysis skills to allow you to solve problems and design systems and solutions.

If you are more creatively driven and have interests in the media sector, including film, television, web development, gaming and animation, then you should consider the Cambridge Nationals in Creative iMedia. That teaches you to use IT to create digital solutions in the pre-production, production and post-production development lifecycle of various media products.