# ACS | INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

A guide to the Level 3 courses on offer in the Computing Department

## Why Choose ICT or Computing at Level 3?

These A-level's take a hands-on, practical approach to ICT. You will learn by completing projects and assignments that are based on realistic workplace situations, activities and demands. You will develop a range of specialist ICT and/or programming skills and knowledge by building on your prior understanding. These A-Level's seak to provide innovation and promotes student creativity through paperless schemes of assessment. Real world problems require real world solutions, solutions that acknowledge the multi-faceted nature of ICT in society today. Pupils will study a range of industry recognised software, depending on the pathway chosen by the learner.

## What will I Study?

To achieve an A-Level in ICT / Computing, you will study the six core units listed below:

| ICT | Computing |
|---|---|
| Unit 1: Employability Skills in IT | Unit 1: Employability Skills in Computing |
| Unit 2: Computer Business Systems | Unit 2: Computer Networking |
| Unit 3: Spreadsheet Modelling | Unit 3: Event-Driven Programming |
| Unit 4: Digital Graphics | Unit 4: Human Computer Interaction |
| Unit 5: Computer Animation | Unit 5: Computer Game Design |
| Unit 6: Multimedia Design | Unit 6: Developing Computer Games |

**ICT or Computing?**

Both qualifications are offered as separate A-Level's. You can of course choose to study both ICT and Computing.

*ICT: Closely linked to Business, you will learn how ICT is used to support Business Activities. You will develop your skills in Video editing, Image editing and create a short animation using specialist software. You will also develop your spreadsheet skills, creating a bespoke system for a local business.*

*Computing: Develop your skills in computer programming by creating an interactive HCI program suitable for all ages. You will also learn about various Computer Game platforms and technologies, before designing and creating your very own computer game.*

## Assessment

Both qualifications are assessed through 100% Coursework, there is no exam element. Learners will be given project-based assignments, where they will develop their skills using a range of software. This is then submitted and marked by the teacher, before being externally moderated by the exam board.

## Entry Requirements

There are no minimum entry requirements to this course. However, pupils must have a strong interest in Computing or ICT.

## Enrichment & Support

Visits include trips to Cardiff University Computing department and Cyber Security Taster Days at the National Cyber Security Academy. The department also run a trip to New York, to visit the Nintendo World Store and the National Museum of Computing.

**Computing & IT Department at Aberdare Community School**

The department have achieved a 100% PASS rate in this subject since the creation of Aberdare Community School, with 97% of these pupils achieving a MERIT or above.

For any extra information, contact Mr Hills. Alternatively, contract us on twitter:

@Computing_ACS