**Qualification Title**: OCR Level 3 Cambridge Technical Extended Certificate in IT

**Qualification Number**: 601/7098/0

**Overview**

This qualification is designed for you if you're 16 years old or over and want to continue your education through applied learning by developing your knowledge and understanding of the principles of IT and global information systems.

Achievement of this qualification can support you to go on and study relevant IT degrees in a Higher Education institution such as, Computing and IT, Computing Science, Software Developments, Software Engineering, ICT and Computer Networks or Business Information Systems.

There are no formal entry requirements or requirement for any specific prior learning, although you will need a good level of literacy and numeracy skills.

You could include this qualification into a wider programme of study incorporating a variety of Level 3 qualifications such as the vocational Cambridge Technicals in Business, Digital Media and/or A level Computing, English and Mathematics.

**What does this qualification cover?**

You'll take five units to achieve this qualification.

There are three mandatory units. These are the *Fundamentals of IT*, *Global information* and *Cyber security*. The first two mandatory units provide you with an insight into the IT sector as you investigate the pace of technological change, IT infrastructure, the flow of information on a global scale and important legal and security considerations. The third mandatory unit reflects on important developments in the sector around information security. It requires you to consider how data should be protected and the response of the IT sector to emerging threats such as cyber terrorism.

You must then take two of the four optional units. The optional units include *Project management, Product development, Systems analysis and design* and the *Internet of Everything*.

All units will help you develop transferrable skills such as communication and problem solving. The optional units encourage the development of time management, research and analytical skills as well as emphasising the need for good written and verbal communication skills.

**Is this qualification right for me?**

This qualification is part of a suite of Cambridge Technicals in IT at Levels 2 and 3. Normally you would choose one of the OCR Level 3 Cambridge Technicals in IT because you have successfully gained Level 2 qualifications in a similar or related subject, but there are no formal entry requirements for these qualifications.

This is one of six qualifications available within the Level 3 Cambridge Technicals in IT suite:

- 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)

This qualification is the same size as one A Level so you will have the flexibility to achieve other qualifications alongside it. You will take units which provide the breadth of knowledge, understanding and skills to prepare you to study in a Higher Education Institution either on an IT related degree course or to support an application for a range of other degree courses, as it would complement the other subjects you take in your study programme.

You would take the Certificate if you were looking for a smaller qualification that could complement the main subjects in your study programme and prepare you for further study.

The Foundation Diploma and Diploma are larger qualifications, similar in size to one and a half and two A levels respectively. The 'Diploma' qualifications are different from the 'Certificates' as you will follow a specialist pathway. This would allow you to tailor your learning to a specific area in the IT sector, to prepare you for employment or to move onto an apprenticeship programme in that area. They would also prepare you to study relevant IT degrees in a Higher Education institution.

**Who supports this qualification?**

The following Universities support this qualification:

Anglia Ruskin University
Birmingham City University
Arden University

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/

**About us**

OCR is a leading UK awarding body. We provide qualifications which engage people of all ages and abilities at school, college, in work or through part-time learning programmes.

Our general and vocational qualifications equip you with the knowledge and skills needed for the future, helping you to achieve your full potential.