



## Opportunities

A range of additional opportunities are arranged to enrich your study. This can include visits to local universities to explore progression opportunities in this field. Guest speakers will give you an insight into what it is really like to work in the industry. You will also be able to join educational visits to the EGX Expo in London.

## What next?

Many students apply to undergraduate programmes at degree level and receive places from some of the best universities in the UK to further develop their studies and skills in the areas of, Digital Media, Computer Science, Interactive and Graphic Design etc.

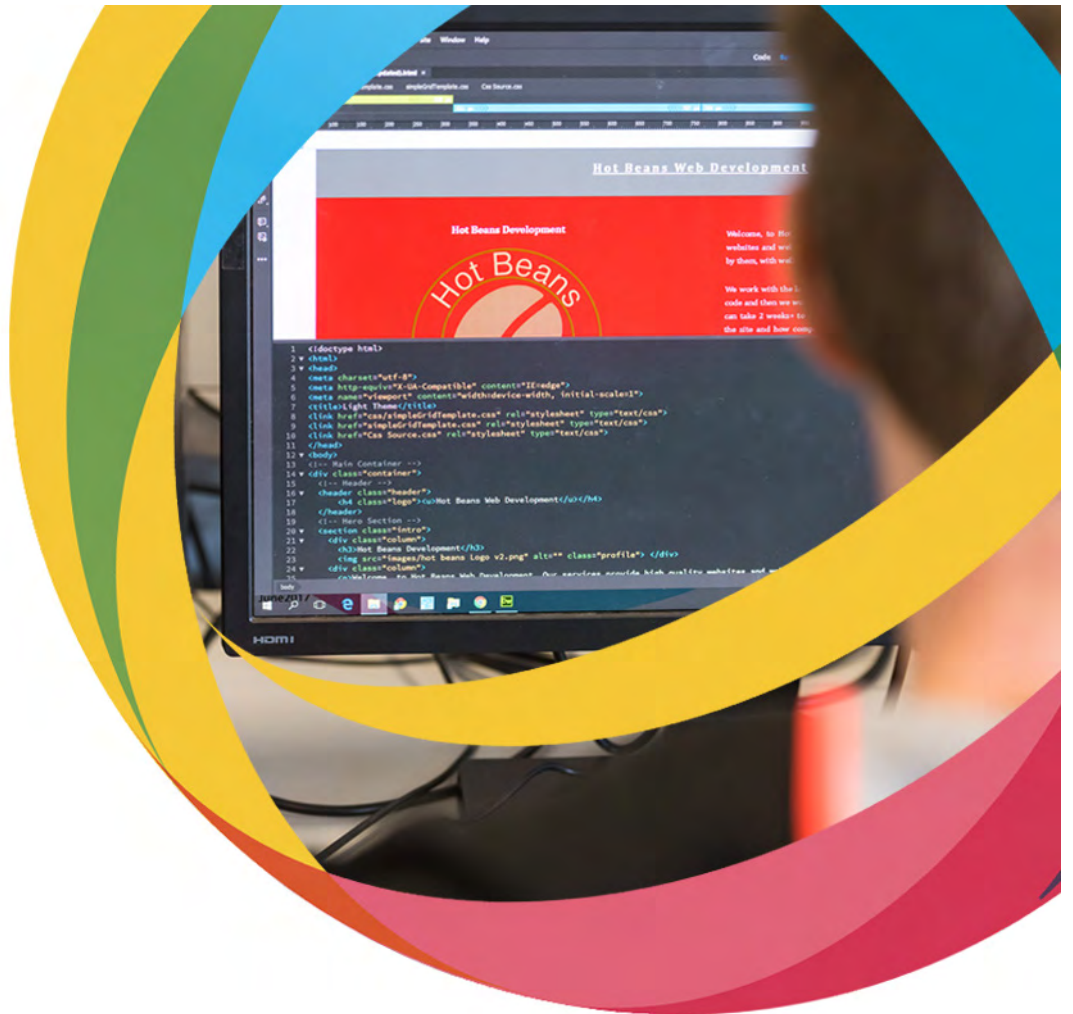
Brighton has an increasing number of companies offering opportunities in IT. Our local contacts help us to understand the needs of employers and many offer internships/apprenticeships/employment for those students who prefer to go directly in work.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION OR HELP CONTACT:

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# Information Technology



**Varndean**  
College Brighton & Hove

# BTEC Level 3 National Certificate in Information Technology

## What is IT?

It is an exciting time to become involved in Information Technology (IT). It underpins everything you do in today's digital world. If you use Facebook, Twitter, an iPhone or the Internet, then you are using IT. IT is about working with people, solving problems, finding solutions and making a difference to peoples' lives.

Imagine where IT can make a difference to reduce global warming. You can help develop solutions to reduce greenhouse gases, design alternative energy sources and improve systems and technologies to manage energy use.

Working in IT developing solutions to our everyday problems can be challenging, but it is also creative, innovative, fast paced, and stimulating. Careers are dynamic and fast moving, offering incredible opportunities across the world.

The two-year Level 3 course is the equivalent of studying for 1 A level.

## Is this Course for me?

Studying BTEC IT at College you will learn more than just technology – You will develop transferable skills in problem solving and critical thinking to be able to generate creative solutions; Intrapersonal skills such as communicating with clients, exercising diplomacy, operating as part of a team, and developing effective management skills.

It will provide a solid base of practical IT skills in a wide range of industry standard software packages to take into University, an apprenticeship or employment.

You will have individual access to a computer during lessons. Coursework requires time, in addition to normal teaching. It is essential that students can manage their time effectively and be willing to work outside time tabled lessons. Open Access facilities are available for this.

## Assessment

Exam and substantial coursework component in both first and second year. 60 % Exam, 40% Coursework



## What will I Study?

### Year 1

#### Creating Systems to Manage Information

From the smallest in-house systems to stock control systems for large online retailers, databases are repositories of information that are a significant part of organisational operating requirements. You will study the design, creation, testing and evaluation of a relational database system to manage information.

*This unit is externally assessed*

#### Using Social Media in Business

You will learn how social media is used to promote products and services. Undertake a practical project to develop and implement a social media plan for a business. Understanding how to use social media for business purposes is useful for employment in a variety of business sectors and the skills associated are closely linked with web and mobile applications development.

*This unit is internally assessed*

### Year 2

#### Information Technology Systems

IT systems play a part in almost everything we do. You learn how to effectively select and use appropriate IT systems. Explore the relationships between the hardware and software that form an IT system, the way systems work individually and together as well as the relationship between the user and the system. Examine the issues related to the use of IT systems and the impact the on organisations and individuals.

*This unit is externally assessed*

#### Website Development

Organisations rely on websites to serve customers and often to generate revenue. They need to be engaging, innovative and desirable using sophisticated techniques to capture user interest and to ensure that customers are served. You will investigate website development principles. Design and develop a website using scripting languages such as (HTML, CSS and Javascript). Many software developers, database experts and systems managers need web-client development skills as an integral part of their overall portfolio of expertise. This unit will prepare you for employment as a website developer or as a website development apprenticeship.

*This unit is internally assessed*