

VENUE AND DURATION OF COURSE:

John Ruskin College, Selsdon Park Road, South Croydon, CR2 8JJ, 1 year Full-time.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS:

Five GCSE grade 9-4 (A*-C) including English and Maths or BTEC Level 2 Diploma /Extended Certificate Merit/Distinction and GCSE grade 9-4 (A*-C) in English and Maths.

Students over 19 without these qualifications, but with relevant work experience, will be considered for the course. All applicants will have an interview and applicants may also be required to take a literacy and numeracy assessment.

WHAT QUALIFICATIONS WILL I GET?

- BTEC Level 3 National Foundation Diploma in Computing in Year 1
- BTEC National Extended Diploma in Computing in Year 2

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This qualification enables students to explore a choice of sector areas, enabling progression to either higher education or employment in the computing sector.

This is a practical, work-related course, which develops the necessary skills, knowledge and understanding to provide a sound, basic IT and business education. You will be required to use real businesses for your coursework. A number of trips are organised during the year to relate your learning to the world outside of College, such as Thorpe Park, Cadbury World and Microsoft. You will often work in small groups and you may well be required to present your findings to the rest of the group. Attendance of at least 90% is necessary in order to complete the course.

UNITS/TOPICS COVERED:

The course comprises of 13 units wide range of computing units, including both Mandatory units and those designed to facilitate more specialist study.

Core Units:

- Unit 1 Principles of Computer Science
- Unit 2 Fundamentals of Computer Systems
- Unit 3 Planning and Management of Computing Projects
- Unit 4 Software Design and Development Project
- Unit 7 IT Systems Security and Encryption
- Unit 8 Business Applications of Social Media
- Unit 9 The Impact of Computing

Optional Units:

- Unit 10 Human - Computer Interaction
- Unit 11 Digital Graphics and Animation
- Unit 12 Digital Audio
- Unit 13 Digital Video
- Unit 14 Computer Games Development

- Unit 15 Website Development
- Unit 16 Object - oriented Programming
- Unit 17 Mobile Apps Development
- Unit 18 Relational Database Development
- Unit 19 Computer Networking
- Unit 20 Managing and Supporting Systems
- Unit 21 Virtualisation
- Unit 22 Systems Analysis and Design
- Unit 23 Systems Methodology

N.B. Optional units are subject to change.

TYPE OF ASSESSMENT:

Assessments are specifically designed to fit the purpose and objective of the qualification. It includes a range of assessment types and styles suited to vocational qualifications in the sector. There are three main forms of assessment that you need to be aware of: External (Exam and Set tasks), Internal (Assignments) and Synoptic.

EQUIPMENT NEEDED:

- Pens
- Paper
- Folders

WHERE CAN IT LEAD?

It is a well-regarded qualification for entry to Higher Education and advanced professional studies. Employment opportunities range from careers in IT (Web Development, Programming, Hardware) and Business (Sales and Finance to Human Resources and Marketing).

COURSE FEE:

If you are under 19 on 31/08/2025, tuition is free. If you are 19 or over, please consult Client Services for advice and guidance on funding and eligibility.

Please be aware that there may be additional costs for equipment and educational visits. This information will be available from the curriculum staff at interview.

WHAT TO DO NEXT:

If you have any outstanding queries please contact our Client Services team on 020 8651 1131 or at clientservices@johnruskin.ac.uk.

To apply online for this course please visit www.johnruskin.ac.uk.

Disclaimer:

Every effort has been made to ensure that the details contained in this leaflet are up-to-date and accurate at the time of printing. However, the College reserves the right to alter or cancel courses, their content, entry requirements, fees or other details should circumstances dictate.

Should you require this leaflet in a different format please contact Client Services on 020 8651 1131.