**Cambridge Technicals in IT**

**Introduction – an outline of the course**

Welcome to Cambridge Technicals in IT. Cambridge Technicals is a vocational qualification designed with the workplace in mind to provide a high-quality alternative to A Levels, with a great range of units to choose from. Vocational education is not just about results, it’s about educating people in the knowledge and skills required for employment and for the community as a whole. It’s also about developing the behaviours and attributes needed to progress and succeed in education and in work. This award is the equivalent of one A level and is designed to be a two year course.

The course is made up of two externally assessed exams and three coursework units. Each exam is out of 80 marks and you have 1 hour 30 minutes to complete the exam. For the coursework units they are completed in class and marked by your teacher. They are then externally moderated by someone from OCR.

**What will we be studying in the first half term?**

In September you will start by looking at the Fundamentals of IT that will serve as a foundation to build your knowledge and skills. The course will begin by understanding computer hardware, computer software and moving onto business IT systems. This part of the course will provide you with a sound understanding of IT technologies and practices essential for IT professionals and how businesses use IT.

**What can I do that will help me prepare for Cambridge Technicals in IT**

You could use some of your summer to carry out some preparation in order to get started with your studies in September. Any resources you already have such as text books, revision guides, work books, knowledge organisers etc please do keep as they may come in use. Some of the topics we cover may build on what you will have covered at GCSE.

Keeping up to date with news on a wide range of technology issues is a fantastic place to start and will support you throughout the course: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/technology>

You may wish to use some of your summer to carry out some background reading and preparation. You could complete an on-line university course (MOOC). Log onto Unifrog to find out more:

<https://www.unifrog.org/student/moocs/start>

**Summer Gap Task**

The best way to prepare for your Cambridge Technicals in IT is to complete the summer gap task that has been set.

On the [school website](https://www.guiseleyschool.org.uk/), if you click on Sixth Form and follow the list until you see Year 11 into 12 Gap Tasks. Click on this and find the Cambridge Technicals in IT task.

Here you will find a range of suggested tasks to complete. You do not have to complete all tasks and can choose which ones you would like to complete. We do recommend you choose a selection of different tasks and avoid completing them all in one go.

We are really looking forward to seeing you all in September and working with you so that you achieve your goals and aspirations.