


The Knowledge Economy – Newly Emerging Courses


Introduction

Access to affordable, reliable and sustainable ICT solutions alongside improved ICT management practices is enabling the education sector to think more broadly and strategically about the role of ICT. In particular, schools are developing curriculum models that are aiding, supporting and fostering students to enter new and emerging job markets within the knowledge economy and the digital industries in particular.

This brief document details a growing number of courses that are available from examination bodies as well as organisations and companies who can support the development of the new digital curriculum.

Courses available from the main examination bodies

 Edexcel offers a number of BTEC specialist qualifications. They include 3D Design, Graphic Design, ICT Systems and Principles, Information Technology (Specialist) and Interactive Media. These courses are ideal stepping stones towards career pathways into the IT and creative digital media industries.

 OCR offers a number of specialist qualifications in Creative and Digital Media, IT Practitioners, ICT Systems for Professionals and Creative iMedia.

The National Apprenticeship Service



The National Apprenticeship Service offers employers an opportunity to provide a number of apprenticeships.

ICT apprenticeships are available for a large selection of careers; including, IT and Telecoms Professionals, ICT Professionals and IT Users. Apprenticeships are also available in Arts, Media and Publishing.

Sources of Further Information



Big Ambition is a revolutionary programme whose primary strategy is to attract teenagers towards education and careers within the IT sector and the creative technology industries.
<http://www.bigambition.co.uk/>



The Microsoft IT Academy Programme offers a comprehensive range of training and resources needed to deliver high quality training to students, staff and the wider community.



If your school is using Apple technology or about to make a substantial investment in Apple technology you may be interested to learn more about Apple's Regional Training Centre scheme. If you are interested in sharing your vision for education technology eligible schools will need to be in a position to offer a training venue for other schools.

It's always a good idea to introduce students to courses and to potential career pathways. The following segment provides you with a number of organisations that will inspire your students.



Futureworks is based in Manchester and it provides education and training in sound, music, film, TV, games, design and 3D animation.
<http://www.futureworks.co.uk>



Escape Studios is one of the most successful and well respected CG academies in the world.
<http://www.escapestudios.co.uk/>

**For Further Information
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