AAQ BTEC NATIONAL IN COMPUTING (EXTENDED CERTIFICATE)

Launch your tech career with hands-on coding, cybersecurity, and UX design - build digital products and solve real industry challenges in a course that prepares you for university, apprenticeships, or direct entry to the digital workforce.

Level 3 · A Level (or equivalent) · Penwith College

TOP COURSE HIGHLIGHTS

PYTHON PROGRAMMING | CYBERSECURITY & ENCRYPTION | UX/UI DESIGN | SOFTWARE DEVELOPMENT | INDUSTRY-RELEVANT SKILLS

HANDS-ON PROGRAMMING

Master Python and algorithms to design and implement real-world software solutions.

CYBERSECURITY EXPERTISE

Learn to protect networks, apply encryption, and understand legal frameworks like GDPR.

HUMAN-CENTRED DESIGN

Create intuitive interfaces using UX/UI principles and modern prototyping tools. Gain practical programming, cybersecurity, and design skills with a two-year course that prepares you for university and tech careers. Learn to code, secure networks, and design user-friendly systems while building problem-solving and critical thinking skills.

WHAT WILL I LEARN?

You'll complete **four mandatory units: Year 1:**

- *Programming Fundamentals* – Python coding, algorithms, recursion, data structures, validation, and testing.
- *Computer Network Security & Encryptio* – Network types, security threats, encryption methods (AES, RSA), hashing, and legal issues.

Year 2:

- *Human-Computer Interactio* – UX/UI principles, accessibility, assistive technologies, prototyping tools like Figma.
- *Practical Programming* – Software development lifecycle, systematic approaches, version control, testing, and documentation.

Learn programming, cybersecurity, UX/UI design, and software development. Year 1 covers Python fundamentals and network security. Year 2 focuses on HCI principles and managing software projects using systematic development approaches, preparing you for higher education and tech careers.

WHERE WILL IT TAKE ME?

Careers: Software Developer, Cybersecurity Analyst, UX Designer, Network Engineer, Data Analyst, Systems Architect, Game Developer. **Progression:** Leads to degrees in Computer Science, Software Engineering, Games Development, Cybersecurity, and related fields. Graduates are highly valued for problem-solving, coding, and design skills in a digital-first economy.

FOR THE LATEST COURSE INFORMATION
Scan for assessment arrangements, learner support, confirmed start dates and how to apply.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Five GCSEs at Grade 4 or above, including English and Maths.

IMPORTANT

Course information can change. Please use the QR code below for the current assessment arrangements, entry requirements and start dates.

FOR THE LATEST COURSE INFORMATION

Scan for assessment arrangements, learner support, confirmed start dates and how to apply.