

Useful links for more information and where to get advice

<http://yp.direct.gov.uk/diplomas/>

www.mychoicelondon.co.uk

www.cfbt.com/wayahead/westlondon.aspx

It is also strongly recommended that you talk to your institution's Connexions Personal Adviser or Career Adviser who will be able to give you impartial advice and guidance. This will help you make an informed decision on whether or not the diploma is suitable for you.

Remember you can also get advice from the Connexions One Stop Shop at 181 King Street, Hammersmith, W6 9JT. Tel: 020 8741 2441. Open Monday to Friday 9.30am-5.00pm, Tuesday & Thursday 9.30am-7pm.

How do you get on to the Information Technology Diploma?

You must have a level of independence and enterprise as this course covers both theoretical and practical experiences in school, college and with employers.

For the **Higher Diploma** you need to have reached at least a level 5 in English, maths and science at the end of Year 9.

For the **Advanced Diploma** you need to have gained C grade or above in English, maths and science GCSE plus two other GCSEs (or equivalents at D grade or above).

Hammersmith and Fulham Consortium

The Hammersmith and Fulham Consortium is a partnership of the local authority, local schools; Ealing, Hammersmith and West London College; the Kingwood City Learning Centre; work based learning providers; employers; universities and other near-by London boroughs. Through joint planning and delivery the Consortium delivers the following diploma lines of learning:

- Business, Administration and Finance
- Hair and Beauty Studies
- Information Technology
- Society Health and Development
- Retail Business (from 2010)

An excellent working partnership with the London Borough of Ealing has meant that Hammersmith and Fulham students are also able to access the Ealing-led diploma lines in the following areas:

- Construction and the Built Environment
- Hospitality
- Creative and Media (from 2010)
- Sport and Active Leisure (from 2010)
- Travel and Tourism (from 2011)



Hammersmith and Fulham Consortium

The diploma in...

Information Technology 2009/2010

The
Diploma
Bringing learning to life

Why do the Information Technology Diploma?

Through three key themes, business, people, technology and multimedia you will find out how organisations work and the role technology can play; how to work well with other people; how to create technology solutions and look at designing and developing a multimedia product for a particular audience.

You'll also learn how to manage and deliver successful IT projects, and be able to apply what you have learnt when working on your own projects.

For a successful career in IT you'll need to work well with people, understand the way business and technology work together, and to be able to bring all these skills together to run effective projects. These are essential employability skills that you will learn through the Information Technology Diploma.

A key aspect of the diploma is learning through employer-led activities and challenges where you will face real-life work situations.

Please note: There will be limited availability to these courses in 2009/10 and 2010/11 for 14-16 year olds. Please check with your school to see if they are a participating institution.

Where can you go with an Information Technology Diploma?

Course name	Level		A.Level or GCSE Equivalents
Diploma in Information Technology	Advanced	3	3.5 A Levels
	Higher	2	7 GCSEs Grade A*-C (8.5 including Functional Skills)
	Foundation	1	5 GCSEs Grade D-G (6.25 including Functional Skills)

A Diploma in Information Technology will give you the skills you need for either university or work, and is a first step towards a career in IT. It could lead you to a university degree in computing, computer networking, information systems, business and information technology, computer games software, multimedia or graphic design.

Or it could help you begin a career as an IT professional, business manager or entrepreneur. You will also have the skills and capability to thrive in the e-economy.

However, the Diploma in IT doesn't mean you have to opt for a career in this sector. Because a Diploma teaches a mix of subjects, it will give you the skills that will be welcomed by colleges, universities and employers, no matter what you choose to do.

Remember: Your Connexions Personal Adviser or school/college careers adviser will help you understand where you can progress to with a diploma qualification and, if you have a particular career or university course in mind, to help with your choice of additional/specialist learning.

The Challenge

To get the full Diploma you will need to successfully complete a range of components: **Principal Learning; the Project; Work Experience; Personal Learning and Thinking Skills; Additional/Specialist Learning.** You will also have to gain Functional Skills in English, Maths and ICT.

Work experience is an essential part of this course as it will help to give you the employability skills that you will need for the future.

Your Additional/Specialist Learning component can be relevant to your Diploma subject or something that reflects your other interests and career ambitions – such as a language, a science or a creative subject.

Who is offering the Information Technology Diploma in the Hammersmith and Fulham Consortium?

Phoenix High School (Foundation and Higher to 14-16 year olds). Apply directly to school.

Ealing, Hammersmith and West London College (Higher for 14-16 year olds and Advanced and Higher for 16-19 year olds). Apply through the Course Information Centre (CIC) on 0800 980 2175 for post 16 courses. Pre 16s should apply through their own schools.

Henry Compton Boys' School (Higher to 14-16 year olds). Apply directly to school.

Kingwood City Learning Centre (Units of the Higher Diploma in conjunction with Phoenix High School to 14-16 year olds).

London Skills Academy (Units of the Foundation Diploma in conjunction with Phoenix High School to 14-16 year olds).