



Curriculum Description for London IGCSE

Information Communication Technology (ICT) (4385)

- **About this course**

This course is designed as a two-year course. It aims to encourage the exploration and study of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) in a variety of contexts: home, community, business, industry, recreation and education. In any given situation students will be given the opportunity to acquire competence, ability and critical skills through the implementation, use and evaluation of a range of ICT systems. Students can develop their interests in, enjoyment of, and critical reflections about ICT as an integral part of modern society.

- **Examination format.**

The specification will be examined twice a year, in May and November.

Paper /Component	Mode of Assessment	Weighting	Length
1	Examination Paper 1F, targeting grades C – G (Foundation Tier)	70%	1.5 hours
2	Examination Paper 2H, targeting grades A* - D (Higher Tier)	70%	1.5 hours
3	Coursework, common to both tiers, consisting of a project (15%) and set tasks based on a case study (15%). Coursework will be marked externally.	30%	--

Students take two components.

Foundation Tier candidates take examination paper 1F and component 3, coursework.

Higher Tier candidates take examination paper 2H and component 3, coursework.

- **Different tiers of examination offered**

Papers 1F and 2H

The examination Papers 1F and 2H will each consist of short-answer questions with space below each question for candidates to write their answers. The questions will be graded and arranged in order of increasing difficulty.

Up to half the questions will be common to both tiers and will be designed to test candidates in the grade range C - D.

The remaining questions on each paper will extend the range of grades that can be tested. Paper 1F will be designed to test grades C - G; Paper 2H will test grades in the range A* - D.

- **Coursework (Component 3)**

The coursework is common to both tiers. It consists of two components, a project (15%), and a collection of set tasks based on a case study (15%). Both components will be marked externally.

For the project, candidates must write a report on the use of a computer to solve a problem. Each candidate is required to identify a problem and solve it using an appropriate software package. The report of the solution must be presented under the following headings:

Process heading	Maximum mark
Identify	5
Analyze	9
Design	9
Implement	12
Evaluate	5
Total	40

Because of the need to distinguish between good work that is based on an exacting task, and very good work based on a less demanding task, the assessment guidance for examiners gives two mark ranges – standard and extension.

When marking coursework, examiners will decide what level of task the candidate has attempted and therefore which of the mark ranges to use in assessing the project. In the Identify and Evaluate sections it is possible for standard problems to gain all of the available marks; however, in the Analyse, Design, and Implement sections, the maximum number of marks that can be gained by standard problems is reduced.

Note: The coursework project is not intended to be a major project. It should be a small but worthwhile problem.

The case study

A simple case study will be distributed to centres at least one year before the examination. Candidates will be required to furnish evidence that they have performed several tasks set by London Examinations based on the case study. Each task will consist of a number of straightforward steps presented in the form of sub-tasks.

Evidence submitted for assessment must represent the work of the candidate alone; tasks must not be carried out jointly with others. The time allocated for each task is to be determined by the candidate's teacher and there is no limit on the hardware or software that may be used. See the accompanying Teacher's Guide for guidance on coursework deadlines.