

Level 3 AAQ National Extended Certificate in Information Technology

Location	Stretford Campus
Course Type	College 16-18
Department	Computing
Start Date	Tuesday 1st September 2026
Course Code	TFP-CP3S-1100

Course Overview

This course enables students to gain a solid foundation in Information Technology, exploring its role, the implications of its use, and strategies for addressing cyber security threats and managing attacks. Students will also develop valuable skills in designing websites tailored to specific purposes and managing data through the creation of relational database solutions.

Additionally, the course incorporates Cisco Networking Academy and AWS Academy programs, which provide industry-aligned content designed to develop technical expertise in data centre operations and cloud technologies. It also builds programming skills needed to design, develop, and enhance computer programs using Python, preparing students for real-world IT and software development challenges.

Course Requirements

4 GCSE's at Grade 4 or above (including Maths or English language).

What You Will Learn

- Information Technology Systems - Information technology systems, including the relationship between software and hardware, and the issues related to IT systems.
- Cyber Security and Incident Management - Types of cyber security attacks, the vulnerabilities in networked systems and how to plan and respond to attacks.
- Website Development - The development tools, techniques and processes used in website development and how to test usability, functionality and fitness for purpose.
- Relational Database Development - Structure of data, data design and database management systems (DBMS).
- Cisco Networking Academy English For IT - English language in the context of IT. It covers grammar, vocabulary, reading, listening skills and some writing-focusing on essential terminology and phrases used in the digital industry.
- Cisco Networking Academy Python Programming - You will learn in-demand skills such as how to design, develop, and improve computer programs, methods for analysing problems using programming, Object-Oriented Programming (OOP) and programming best practices.
- Amazon Web Services Academy Data Centre Technician - Develop the knowledge and practical skills needed to support data centre operations. You will cover core concepts such as data centre infrastructure, hardware maintenance, troubleshooting, networking, and security.

Assessment

You will undertake internally assessed assignments, externally assessed examinations and online assessments.

Progression

The T level Foundation Year in IT, alongside a GCSE Grade 4 or above in English and Maths, prepares you for progression onto our Digital T-Level pathways, Apprenticeships and Access to Computing. It also prepares you for employment within different roles in the digital industry.

Career Options

The course will provide you with skills required to succeed in roles in digital & IT, cyber security, website design, database management and software development.

Mandatory Units

Information Technology Systems
Cyber Security and Incident Management
Website Development
Relational Database Development
Cisco Networking Academy English For IT
Cisco Networking Academy Python Programming 1
Cisco Networking Academy Python Programming 2
Amazon Web Services Academy Data Centre Technician

Contact Details

For further information please contact T: 0161 886 7070 or E: info@trafford.ac.uk

Disclaimer

Although every care has been taken to ensure that the information contained within this document is accurate, there may be changes to this programme and provision. We will endeavour to keep prospective and current students updated where appropriate and when the information becomes available.