Computing and Digital

BTEC Foundation Diploma in Art, Design and Media Practice

Campus: North Notts College - Bridge Skills Hub
Code: W04HE03
Level: 4
Type: Full Time

About This Course

The
Foundation Diploma in Art, Design and Media Practice is a practical course designed to develop creative skills and build a strong portfolio for university progression. Learners will explore a range of creative disciplines while developing their own style and professional practice.

Learners
will experiment with different media and techniques while building technical skills, research ability and visual communication. The course prepares learners for higher education and career routes within the creative industries.

Learners
will explore areas such as Fine Art, Graphic Design, Illustration, Photography, Digital Media and 3D Design.

What Will I Study?

Learners will complete practical projects and creative exploration before focusing on a specialist area for their final portfolio.

Key areas of study include:
Creative Exploration and
Experimentation
Visual Communication and Design Development
Research and

Contextual Studies
Creative Project Development
Final Major Project and
Portfolio

The programme includes two stages:
Exploratory Stage, learners experiment
with a wide range of creative disciplines and techniques.
Confirmation Stage,
learners focus on a specialist area and develop a final portfolio for university applications.

Modules Covered

- **Core Units (HNC)**: Programming, Networking, Professional Practice, Database Design & Development, Security and Planning a Computing Project (Pearson-set project)

- **Specialist Unit (HNC):**: One mandatory specialist unit (e.g. Software Development Lifecycles for the general Computing pathway)

- **Optional Unit (HNC)**: One optional unit chosen from a bank of options such as Strategic Information Systems, Management in the Digital Economy, Website Design & Development, Maths for Computing, or Fundamentals of Artificial Intelligence

- **Level 5 (HND)**: The HND comprises the Level 4 units **plus** additional Level 5 units including a substantial Computing Research Project (Pearson-set, typically 30 credits) and specialist modules according to the chosen pathway. For example, an HND (Data Analytics pathway) would include advanced data analysis units, while the Cyber Security pathway covers topics like cryptography and information security. Across all pathways, the HND curriculum totals 240 credits (120 at Level 4 + 120 at Level 5)

Entry Requirements

- GCSE Maths and English at grade C/4 or equivalent
- Level 3 qualification (such as BTEC Nationals in Computing or A-Levels in related subjects) or possess equivalent industry experience to ensure they can successfully engage with the coursework.
- International or non-native English speakers should have an appropriate English proficiency since the qualification is taught and assessed in English

How To Apply

You can apply using our online application form and clicking the **Apply Now** button at the top of the page.

Career Opportunities

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Career pathways include:
Graphic Designer
Illustrator
Photographer
Digital Media Designer
Creative Producer

PLEASE NOTE

We make every effort to ensure information within our online course directory is accurate and a true representation of the courses we are offering in 2027-28. However, we do reserve the right to make changes if necessary.

Last updated: 5th November 2026