Background Information about the Departments
Subjects: Level 2 IT, Level 3 BTEC IT and A Level Computer Science

There are five faculties at Peter Symonds College, each of which comprises a number of subject areas. IT and Computer Science sit within Faculty 5, alongside Mathematics, Modern Foreign Languages and the T level in Education and Early Years.

There are three technology courses delivered within the faculty which are Level 2 Certificate in IT, Level 3 IT (Extended Certificate and Diploma) and A Level Computer Science

There are two full-time IT Teachers and three (two full-time and one part-time) Teachers of Computer Science. Although Computer Science and the IT courses are managed by different Heads of Subject, all staff are well qualified, conscientious and enthusiastic, leading to and encouraging strong teamwork and collaboration, including team-teaching, use of shared resources, as well as enabling also giving the individual teacher and students the scope to pursue their own strengths and interests.

From September 2025, the Level 3 IT Department will be launching the Data Analytics qualification, where students will learn about Data Analytics, Big Data, Machine Learning, Data Modelling and Digital Marketing. The Upper Sixth BTEC Level 3 IT course also follows the Pearson RQF specification, whilst the L2 IT follows the Cambridge Technical specification, specifically focusing on Graphic Design.

A level Computer Science follows the AQA specification. Students program using the Visual Studio environment, programming with Visual Basic and C#.

There are currently 273 students studying A level Computer Science, 27 students studying BTEC IT Diploma, 62 students studying BTEC IT Extended Certificate and 59 students studying IT at Level 2. Some teaching groups are shared and individual student progress is monitored by all teachers. Workshops are offered to support students to achieve and thrive within these subjects.

Students are encouraged to take part in the extracurricular activities we offer, which includes undertaking micro-accreditation learning within Cyber Security, Programming and Digital Marketing. Our departments have a keen focus on offering high-quality employability and higher education experiences throughout their learning experiences.

Accommodation comprises three, 24 seated, computer classrooms with all the necessary software to support the delivery of the qualifications. Students have access to a considerable amount of resources on the College intranet site, which is kept up to date, as well as a wealth of high-quality resources within the Google Workspace.

This high performing College offers excellent opportunities for career development within the wider community, including the Wessex Group. The College organises and supports INSET opportunities within the college, and encourages staff to attend relevant events organised externally.

Director of Curriculum and Support