

DEFINITIVE COURSE RECORD

Course Title	HND Digital Technologies for England (Data Analytics)
Awarding Bodies	Pearson
Level of Award ¹	Level 5
Professional, Statutory and Regulatory Bodies Recognition	None
Credit Structure ²	240 Level 4: 120 Credits Level 5: 120 Credits
Mode of Attendance	Full time
Standard Length of Course ³	2 years full-time
Intended Award	HND Digital Technologies for England (Data Analytics)
Named Exit Awards	HNC Digital Technologies for England (Data Analytics)
Entry Requirements ⁴	• BTEC Level 3 Qualification in subjects like Computing, Business, or Creative Digital Media Production. • A-level qualifications, especially in subjects such as maths, computing, or business, supported by strong GCSE results (grades A* to C or 9 to 4). • GCSE English and Maths Grade 4 or above. • Other Level 3 Qualifications that demonstrate your readiness for higher-level study. • Work Experience in the digital or tech industry, showing your practical skills and knowledge. • International Equivalent Qualifications that are similar to the above.
Delivering Institution(s)	Suffolk New College
UCAS Code	[INSERT UCAS CODE]

¹ For an explanation of the levels of higher education study, see the [QAA Frameworks for Higher Education Qualifications of UK Degree-Awarding Bodies \(2024\)](#)

² All academic credit awarded as a result of study at the University adheres to the [Higher education credit framework for England](#).

³ Where the course is delivered both full-time and part-time, the standard length of course is provided for the full-time mode of attendance only. The length of the part-time course is variable and dependent upon the intensity of study.

⁴ Details of standard entry requirements can be found in the [Admissions Policy](#) and further details about Disclosure and Barring Checks (DBS) can be found on the [University's DBS webpage](#).

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This definitive record sets out the essential features and characteristics of the Level 5 HND in Digital Technologies for England (Data Analytics) course. The information provided is accurate for students entering the course at level 4 in the 2025/2026 academic year⁵.

Course Summary

The Pearson BTEC Level 5 Higher National Diploma in Digital Technologies (Data Analytics), delivered by Suffolk New College, prepares students for a dynamic career in the digital sector. This comprehensive course covers essential units such as Professional Practice, Innovation & Digital Transformation, Cyber Security, Programming, Big Data & Visualisation, and Database Design. Students will gain practical skills in data analytics, cyber defence, and programming, while exploring the significance of digital transformation in modern businesses. With a focus on real-world applications, students will develop critical thinking, problem-solving, and communication skills necessary for success. The course also emphasises continuous professional development and the importance of ethics in data usage. Graduates will be well-equipped for various roles, including Data Analyst, Cyber Security Specialist, Software Developer, Business Intelligence Analyst, and Cloud Solutions Architect, making them valuable assets in today's technology-driven landscape.

Course Aims

The Level 4 units lay the foundations of learning by providing a broad introduction to digital technologies and to a range of digital technology specialist functions. After studying a Level 4 Higher National Certificate in Digital Technologies students will have sound knowledge of the basic concepts of digital technology. They will be competent in a range of subject-specific skills as well as general skills and qualities relevant to key areas of digital-technology-related business.

This develops and strengthens core skills, while preparing students to study specialist subjects at Level 5 or to enter employment with the qualities necessary for job roles that requires personal responsibility.

Students will gain a wide range of knowledge tied to practical skills gained through research, independent study, directed study and workplace scenarios. Students are involved in vocational activities that help them to develop vocational behaviours (the attitudes and approaches required for a competence) and transferable skills. Transferable skills are those such as communication, teamwork, research and analysis, which are highly valued in higher education and the workplace.

Course Learning Outcomes

At the end of the course, students should be able to demonstrate:

- Knowledge and understanding of the fundamental principles and practices of the contemporary global digital technologies environment, responding to and shaping the dynamic and changing nature of digital technologies.

⁵ The University reserves the right to make changes to course content, structure, teaching and assessment as outlined in the [Admissions Policy](#).

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- Knowledge and understanding of interrelationships and integration between areas of business within organisations and across the digital technologies environment.
- Knowledge and understanding of the rapidly-changing external digital technologies environment and its impact on local, national and global levels of strategy, behaviour, management and sustainability.
- Understanding and insight into different businesses; their diverse nature, purposes, cultures, structures and operations, and their influence on the external environment.
- Knowledge and understanding of digital business and technology reshaping traditional revenue streams and business models, disruptive innovation and driving the need for digital strategic priorities in a changing environment.
- A critical understanding of the cultural, ethical, legal, professional and operational frameworks within which businesses operate.
- A critical understanding of processes, procedures and practices for effective management of products, services and people, including corporate social responsibility and sustainable management.
- A critical understanding of the evolving concepts, theories and models in the study of digital technologies across a range of practical and hypothetical business scenarios.
- Apply knowledge and understanding of essential concepts, principles and models in the contemporary global digital technologies environment, to provide solutions supported by evidence-based decision making.
- The ability to develop appropriate policies and strategies in a changing environment, to meet stakeholder expectations and maximise achievement of strategic objectives.
- Apply innovative digital technology ideas to develop, create and communicate new products or services that respond to the changing nature of digital technologies and deliver successful outcomes.
- Integrate theory and practice through the investigation and examination of digital technology practices in the workplace and the wider business environment.
- Develop successful outcomes for clients/businesses using appropriate digital technology practices, business data and information to make justified recommendations.
- Develop different strategies and methods to show how resources (human, financial and information) are integrated and effectively managed to successfully meet digital technology objectives.
- Critically evaluate current digital technology processes and practices, and their application in providing customer satisfaction and building customer loyalty.
- Ability to evaluate a broad range of digital technology tools/techniques and financial reporting for planning, control and problem solving.
- Knowledge and understanding of how the key aspects of leadership and performance management influence the development of people and businesses.
- Critique a range of digital technology systems and operations, and their application to maximise and successfully meet strategic objectives.
- An understanding of the appropriate techniques and methodologies used to resolve real-life problems in the workplace.
- Develop appropriate research skills and skills of critical enquiry to enable the evaluation of different approaches to problem solving in a specific digital technologies context.

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- Self-reflection, including self-awareness; the ability to become an effective self-student and appreciate the value of the self-reflection process.
- Competently use digital literacy to access a broad range of research sources, data and information.
- Interpret, analyse and evaluate a range of data, sources and information to inform evidence-based decision making.
- Synthesise knowledge and critically evaluate strategies and plans to understand the relationship between theory and real-world digital technology scenarios.
- Communicate confidently and effectively, orally and in writing, both internally and externally with businesses and other stakeholders.
- Communicate ideas and arguments in an innovative manner, using a range of digital media.
- Locate, receive and respond to a variety of information sources (e.g. textual, numerical, graphical and computer based) in defined contexts.
- Demonstrate strong interpersonal skills, including effective listening and oral communication skills, as well as the associated ability to persuade, present, pitch and negotiate.
- Identify personal and professional goals for continuing professional development in order to enhance competence to practice in a chosen digital technologies field.
- Develop specific competences and skills required in a specialist digital technologies sector through the completion of specialist pathways and progression routes.
- Develop a range of skills to ensure effective team working, independent initiatives, organisational competence and problem-solving strategies.
- Reflect adaptability and flexibility in approach to digital technologies; showing resilience under pressure and meeting challenging targets within given deadlines.
- Use quantitative skills to manipulate data, evaluate and verify existing theory.
- Evaluate the changing needs of the business environment and have confidence to self-evaluate and undertake additional continuing professional development as necessary.
- Emotional intelligence and sensitivity to diversity in relation to people and cultures.

Course Design

The design of this course has been guided by Pearson and the specification was published in 2023 with a first delivery date of September 2023.

Pearson BTEC Higher National qualifications are recognised higher education qualifications in the UK. They are in line with the Framework for Higher Education Qualifications (FHEQ) in England, Wales and Northern Ireland, and Quality Assurance Agency (QAA) Subject Benchmark Statements. These qualifications are part of the UK Regulated Qualifications Framework (RQF).

In designing the course specification, Pearson have worked closely with:

- Activate Learning
- Aiimi Ltd.
- CCL Group, incorporating Evidence Talks
- Cranfield University

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- Dell
- Drest
- Engine B
- Female Techpreneur
- Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office
- KPMG International Limited
- London Metropolitan University
- McAfee
- Microsoft
- Milton Keynes College
- MKAI
- Retro Games Ltd.
- Sainsbury's
- Smart Klub
- South Central Institute of Technology
- South West Institute of Technology
- Tenable
- University of Portsmouth
- Uxbridge College
- Volkswagen Financial Services.

Course Structure

The Level 5 HND in Digital Technologies (Data Analytics) comprises modules at levels 4 and 5.

Module Specifications for each of these modules is included within the course handbook, available to students on-line at the beginning of each academic year.

	Module	Credits	Unit Type ⁶
Level 4			
4	Unit 1: Professional Practice in the Digital Economy	15	MC
4	Unit 2: Innovation & Digital Transformation	15	MC
4	Unit 3: Cyber Security	15	MS
4	Unit 4: Programming	15	MS
4	Unit 5: Big Data & Visualisation	15	MS
4	Unit 6: Networking in the Cloud	15	MS

⁶ Units designated as mandatory core (MC) must be taken and passed in order to achieve the award. For further information, see the [Framework and Regulations for Higher National Awards](#)

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4	Unit 10: Database Design & Development	15	MS
4	Unit 12: Data Analytics	15	MS
Level 5			
5	Unit 19: Business Intelligence	15	MC
5	Unit 20: Internet of Things	15	MC
5	Unit 21: Emerging Technologies	15	MC
5	Unit 28: Risk Analysis & Systems Testing	15	MS
5	Unit 29: Applied Analytical Models	15	MS
5	Unit 30: Business Information Technology Systems	15	MS
5	Unit 41: Digital Sustainability- offered in second year	15	MO
5	Unit 42: Pitching and Negotiating Skills - offered in second year	15	MO

Awards

On successful completion of the course, students will be awarded a Pearson BTEC Level 5 Higher National Diploma Digital Technologies for England (Data Analytics). Students who leave the course early, may be eligible for an Higher National Certificate Digital Technologies for England (Data Analytics) on completion of all level 4 modules.

Course Delivery

The course is delivered at Suffolk New College, Ipswich Campus. Students studying full-time on Level 5 HND in Digital Technologies - Data Analytics will have approximately 14 contact hours for level 5. The contact hours will be a mix of lectures, seminars, and practical activities. Students will normally be expected to undertake 20 hours of independent study in an average week, but should be prepared for this to vary based on assignment deadlines and class exercises.

Course Assessment

A variety of assessments will be used on the course to enable students to experience and adapt to different assessment styles. The assessment methods used will be appropriate to assess each module's intended learning outcomes. Assessment on the course overall will be by coursework (including essays, reports, presentations, group work, reflective learning journals and research projects).

Special Features

British Computer Society:

- Student Member whilst studying

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- Associate Member on graduation
- Exemption from 2 years IT related work experience towards becoming a Professional Member on graduation (3 years work experience as opposed to the normal 5 years).

All member grades will allow access to the Specialist Groups.

Institute of Science and Technology:

Recognition of the Pearson BTEC Higher Nationals in Digital Technologies for professional membership of IST. There are five grades of membership with the IST. An applicant does not initially apply for a specific grade of membership, the grade offered by the Institute being dependent upon both the qualifications and the experience of the applicant.

By aligning to professional body competency standards, the content and assessment supports student development as professional practitioners for the future. This adds value for students by offering them access to continuing professional development.

In some circumstances, professional bodies will enable students to gain certification of a professional qualification on completion of their Higher National in Digital Technologies.

For additional professional body recognition and membership details for this qualification, please see our Progression Hub on HN Global where the most up to date information can be found: <https://hnglobal.highernationals.com/>.

Course Team

The academic staff delivering this course are drawn from a team that includes teaching specialists and current practitioners. All staff are qualified in their subjects with their own specialist knowledge to contribute.

Course Costs

Students undertaking Level 5 HND in Digital Technologies - Data Analytics will be charged tuition fees as detailed below.

Student Group	Tuition Fees
Full-time UK	£6,700 per year
Part-time UK	£837.45 per 15 credit module

Payment of tuition fees is due at the time of enrolment and is managed in accordance with the Tuition Fee Policy.

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Academic Framework and Regulations

This course is delivered according to the Framework and Regulations for Higher National Awards and other academic policies and procedures of the University and published on the [website](#).