MACCLESFIELD COLLEGE

COMPUTING

PRE - ENROLMENT PACK

KICKSTART YOUR NEXT CHAPTER

A BIT ABOUT THE COMPUTING DEPARTMENT...

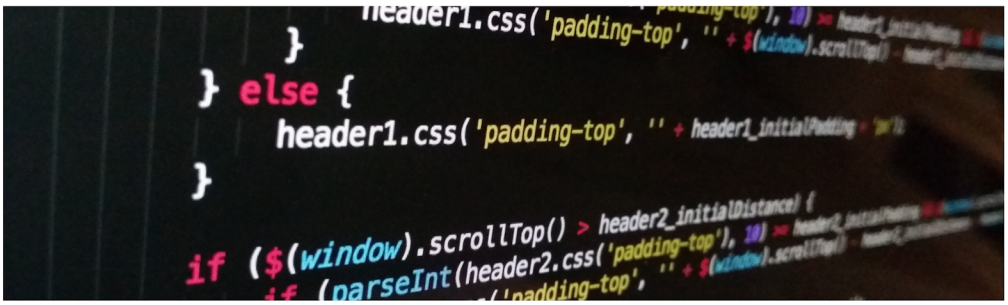
On behalf of the Digital and Computing team – Welcome to Macclesfield College!

We are delighted that you have chosen to continue your education journey with us and look forward to a happy and successful working partnership together. College is a time of achievement and together we hope to help you achieve and exceed your true potential. We have new state-of-the-art computer labs which offer the latest technology for studying computing in the 21st century.

We are a skills and employment focussed department within Macclesfield College that is dedicated to producing highly skilled students, equipped with knowledge in the digital and computing fields, but also who possess fundamental transferable skills to enable them to operate effectively within an organisation, ahead of the 21st-century industry curve.

Students are able to build their expertise in future-focused and adaptable areas on a unit-by-unit basis while transferring theory into practice and by capitalising on work experience opportunities.

You will also have the chance to compete in Cheshire Skills and World Skills competitions.



WHERE THIS COURSE COULD TAKE YOU?

Some career pathways you can progress to includes Programmers & Software Development Professionals IT Specialist Managers IT Business Analysts Architects & Systems Designers Web Design Telecommunications Engineer Designers, Cyber Security Engineer.

You could also enter an apprenticeship in the digital and computing field. Some of our students have gone onto apprenticeship programs with Barclays, IBM and Bentley.

You could also go onto university to study computing or an information technology subject. We also offer the first 2 years at the college of university in our HNC and HND Computing Cyber Security programs.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

You will be provided with all the essential IT equipment you need to have to complete your coursework, as well as access to out cutting edge Virtual Learning Environment.

You will need to bring some stationery, a pen and a planner to keep yourself organised.

A TASK TO GET YOU STARTED...

This pack has been designed to Introduce the kind of skills and knowledge you will need to study the digital and computing programmes at Macclesfield College and prepare you for your transition into further education.

It will also assist in helping you to make an informed decision about your choice of course. Tutors will also be reviewing the tasks on completion to check that you have engaged with the work, and the level of work completed will be considered when accepting students onto specific courses.

We hope that you will find the content interesting - it may be initially challenging to learn independently, but this is an important skill and the more effort you put in, the more rewarding it will be.

TASK 1

As a techy, you should be familiar with most computing topics. There are three fundamental topics, the first is...hardware; what it is, specifications, terminology, upgrades, meeting requirements & HOW IT FITS TOGETHER!

Subscribe to Linus tech tips https://www.youtube.com/user/LinusTechTips

This is an interesting and easy way of familiarising yourself with Hardware, what fits with what component, the different brands and their strengths.

If you need a computer or you know someone who does, build them one, it's a great way to learn. Want to see what a hardware pioneer looks like, or maybe you're interested in the electronic engineering side to computing?

Check out Adafruit's Limor Fried on Youtube.

TASK 2

The second is software and particularly how to create it.

You can start to learn about programming languages here and if you only try one thing before starting a computing course, make it programming.

https://www.codecademy.com/learn and when you're ready you can try this https://codecombat.com

The languages we use for programming are C#; Java; Python; PHP & Javascript.

You can start to learn here: https://www.w3schools.com/js/default.asp
https://www.w3schools.com/python/default.asp
https://www.w3schools.com/java/default.asp
https://www.w3schools.com/cs/default.asp
https://www.w3schools.com/php/default.asp

The languages we use for web development are HTML/CSS and the bootstrap framework: https://www.w3schools.com/html/default.asp

Try building a website and implementing some of the functionality on the HOWTO page: https://www.w3schools.com/howto/default.asp

Thirdly...Databases drive almost all our websites, networks, software...and even the games we play. Learn about SQL (Pronounced 'Sequal'), the language of building, maintaining and programming databases here: https://www.w3schools.com/sql/-default.asp

NOTES

MACCLESFIELD COLLEGE

NOTES

MACCLESFIELD COLLEGE

KICKSTART YOUR NEXT CHAPTER

MACCLESFIELD COLLEGE

Get in touch

info@macclesfield.ac.uk

01625 410000

www.macclesfield.ac.uk