

T-LEVELS



Everything you need to know about the...

Digital T Level

Introducing T Levels

First introduced in September 2020, T Levels are two-year courses for 16-19 year olds which are taken after GCSEs.

These courses have been developed in collaboration with employers and education providers so that they meet the needs of industry and prepare students for entry into skilled employment, an apprenticeship or related technical study through further or high education.

T Levels offer students practical and knowledge-based learning at a school or college, as well as on-the-job experience through an industry placement. They're available at selected colleges, schools and other providers across England.

What are T Levels?

Did you know that T Levels:

-  **Are broadly equivalent in size to three A levels** and focus on technical and vocational skills.
-  **Span a range of different industry areas and occupations** – from early years to digital and much more.
-  **Have been designed with over 250 businesses and employers**, to give students the knowledge and skills they'll need.
-  **Offer an industry placement lasting at least 45 days**, allowing students to experience a career while studying.
-  **Are worth UCAS points**, which are recognised by universities and other education providers (a T Level Distinction* is worth the same as 3 A levels at A*).
-  **Do not have tuition fees**, providing a student begins studying before they turn 19.
-  **Allow T Level students to spend 80% of the course in their learning environments** and the other 20% is an industry placement, where they put their skills into action.
-  **Offer pre-study preparation through Transition Programmes** – 1-year courses that ensure students are ready for their chosen T Level.

T Levels: The future of digital education

We're proud to have spearheaded the development of the technical qualifications that sit at the centre of the following Digital T Levels:

- Digital Business Services
- Digital Support Services.

Launched in September 2021, they offer new routes to employment or further learning for young people looking to begin a career in the digital sector. Core knowledge and understanding is assessed through an examination, and core skills through a practical employer-set project.

Occupational specialisms

The occupational specialisms included in the course provide students with knowledge and skills required to enter employment or further study in a specific occupational area.

The occupational specialism in the Digital Business Services T Level is:

- Data technician.

The occupational specialisms for the Digital Support Services T Level are:

- Digital infrastructure
- Network cabling
- Digital support.

Progression routes

T Levels provide several progression options for students, which include skilled employment, apprenticeships and higher education (HE). [Find out more about the grade boundaries and UCAS points given for T Levels.](#)

Digital Business Services

This course is suitable for anyone wanting a career in IT, specifically in areas such as IT solutions or data analysis. Students can progress into roles such as:

- [Data analyst – statistician](#)
- [Market research data analyst.](#)

Read this [Digital Business Services Progression Profile](#) from IfATE to learn more.

Digital Support Services

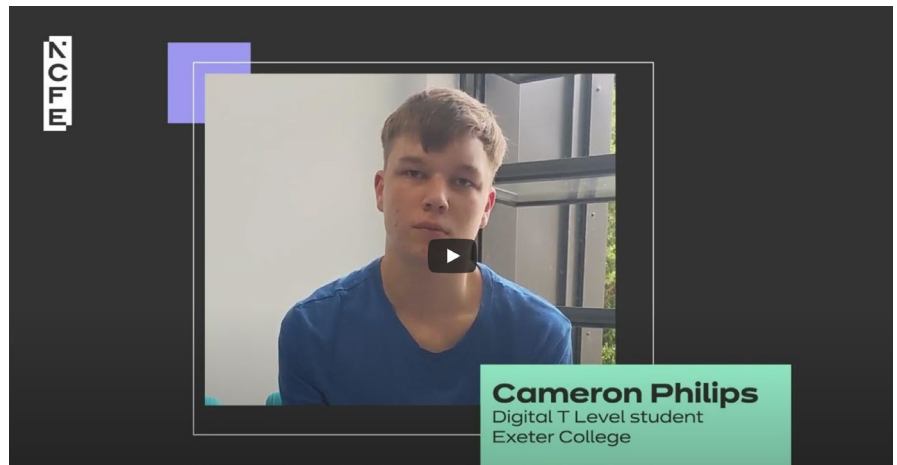
Suitable for those wanting a career in digital infrastructure and support. Career options include becoming an infrastructure technician or a role in IT support. Students can progress into roles such as:

- [IT security co-ordinator](#)
- [IT support technician.](#)

Read this [Digital Support Services Progression Profile](#) from IfATE to learn more.

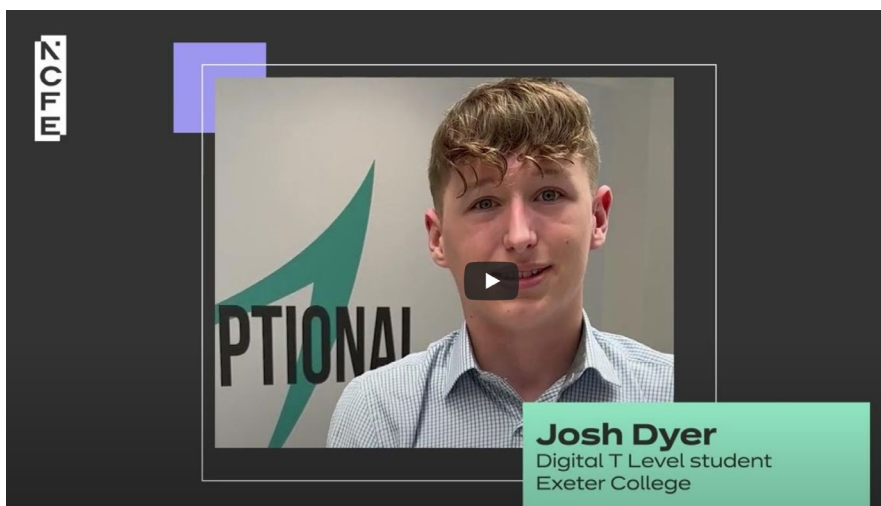
Digital T Level students: Our pathway to progression

We caught up with some Digital T Level students to find out more about their experiences on the course. Watch these videos to hear from those who've successfully gained jobs within the digital sector after completing their T Levels:



You get involved in interesting placements and the T Level helps to put you straight into work instead of having to go to university."

Cameron Philips, Digital T Level student



I liked the learning and the teaching style of the course, it's very new and different to A Levels."

Josh Dyer,
Digital T Level student

Why choose a career in digital?

There's never been a better time to get into digital! Recent research revealed that **tech roles now make up 14% of all job opportunities in the UK**, with a record 870,000 tech and digital job vacancies available between January and May 2022.

Most jobs in today's world require digital skills for continued career progression. Alongside that, opportunities inside the digital sector are exploding as the sector advances at a never-before-seen pace.

New technologies like quantum computing and DNA storage solutions – as well as the continued improvement of internet access, speed and capacity – are creating fresh opportunities in the sector.

With so many roles available, this is the perfect time to develop the knowledge, skills, and behaviours you'll need to succeed in this growing industry. Some of the exciting roles you could progress to within the sector are:

- Desktop support engineer
- Network planner
- Database administrator
- Network engineer.

Find out more information on the opportunities available in the digital sector by [visiting our website](#).



Further resources

Digital T Levels factsheets

Discover the key facts about each T Level with these handy documents by the Department for Education (DfE):

→ [Digital Business Services](#)

→ [Digital Support Services.](#)

General T Level resources

Find out more about T Levels by visiting the below dedicated webpages:

→ [DfE](#)

→ [IfATE](#)

→ [National Careers Service.](#)

Student resources

Visit the websites below for student resources on T Levels:

→ [DfE](#)

→ [Youth Employment.](#)

Parent and guardian resources

Is your child interested in studying a T Level? Visit the websites below to find out more information.

→ [The Parents Guide to](#)

→ [T Level Info for Parents](#)

→ [NCFE.](#)

Digital career information resources

→ [Digital World](#)

→ [TechUK](#)

→ [Youth Employment.](#)

Contacts

→ James Lane - jameslane@ncfe.org.uk

→ tlevelsupport@ncfe.org.uk