



BLACKPOOL SIXTH

Path your  
future in.....

**ICT &  
Computing**



## WHICH PATH DO YOU WANT TO TAKE?

### IT RELATED BUSINESS

This pathway leads to employment in roles such as a Database Administrator, Information Systems Manager, IT Consultant, IT Sales Professional or IT Support Officer.

You will study BTEC Level 3 Diploma in ICT Practitioners with two other AS/A level courses. Business Studies and Certificate in Financial Studies (IFS) are recommended.

### MULTIMEDIA AND WEB DESIGN

Careers as a Multimedia Programmer, Multimedia Specialist, Web Designer, Web Analyst and E-commerce Manager are examples that this pathway leads to.

BTEC Level 3 Diploma in IT Practitioners and two AS/ A level courses. Art (Graphic Design) and Electronics are recommended.

### COMPUTING

This pathway can lead to the more technical aspects of ICT and computing. For example, programming, computer design, networking and telecommunications.

You will study AS/A levels in Mathematics and Computing with either Electronics or Physics.

## FORMER BLACKPOOL SIXTH STUDENTS:



Daniel Fard is the Director of Shell Creative Ltd, a creative web and design agency in Blackpool. Daniel completed his A levels at Blackpool Sixth Form in 2004.

### FACTS

- The IT industry was affected less than most other industries during the recent recession. This was partly due to companies employing IT professionals to help them cut costs but also down to the overall strength of the industry.
- IT is a dynamic industry that is often informal, but always focused on achievement. IT graduates highlight working on different technologies and interesting problems. They enjoy variety, relaxed work environments, flexible working arrangements, working to deadlines, working closely with a variety of people and a good work/life balance.
- Many graduates work a fairly standard day. However, in some areas extra work may be necessary to meet project deadlines. In the games industry for example, long hours are standard.



Lee Hopwood is the Network Manager at Blackpool Sixth Form. Lee studied A levels in Computing, Physics and Mathematics before leaving in 1995 to study a degree in Computer Science at University of Manchester.

### NORTH WEST REGION EARNINGS

JOB TITLE	TYPICAL ANNUAL SALARIES
Applications Developer	£19,000 - £23,000
Games Developer	£12,000 - £25,000
IT Consultant	£20,000 - £32,000
Junior Systems Designer	£20,100 - £30,700
IT Sales Professional	£17,000 - £26,000
Network Engineer	£20,000 - £25,000
Multimedia Programmer	£18,000 - £24,000



IT specialist, Austin Reid, is a Technical Consultant at BlackChair. Austin has previously worked for T-Mobile and IBM as an IT Specialist. Austin studied A levels at Blackpool Sixth Form before completing a BSc in Computer Science at the University of Portsmouth in 1999.

## JOB OPPORTUNITIES

- 1 in 18 employed people in the UK work in the IT and telecommunications industry (1.52 million people).
- There are over 150,000 businesses in the industry, 87% of which are IT-related.
- The UK economy will require an average of 110,500 new IT professionals every year for the next four years (Technology Counts UK, 2010).

Source: Blackpool Focus LMI Newsletter, CXL. Winter 2008, and [www.prospects.ac.uk](http://www.prospects.ac.uk)



## USEFUL CONTACTS

The Chartered Institute for IT (BCS) [www.bcs.org](http://www.bcs.org)  
BCS Women [www.bcs.org/bcswomen](http://www.bcs.org/bcswomen)  
Computing Careers <http://computingcareers.acm.org>  
Institute of Consulting (IC) [www.icon consulting.org.uk](http://www.icon consulting.org.uk)  
Institute of IT Training (IITT) [www.thetrainingprofessional.com](http://www.thetrainingprofessional.com)  
Institute of Management Information Systems (IMIS) [www.imis.org.uk](http://www.imis.org.uk)  
Institute of Scientific and Technical Communications (ISTC) [www.istc.org.uk](http://www.istc.org.uk)  
Institute of Analyst and Programmers [www.iap.org.uk](http://www.iap.org.uk)

Source: Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings (2007) North West regional data set. Data refers to gross mean earnings for full-time jobs. Annual figures have been rounded to nearest hundred and weekly figures to the nearest full pound (Crown Copyright)

[www.prospects.ac.uk](http://www.prospects.ac.uk)

