

LEVEL 4 (Higher Education)	TOTAL CREDITS 120	DELIVERY Online / Blended / Campus	FEES £1,500 + VAT*
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Finance: PayPal or Klarna Finance | *VAT not applicable outside UK

Course Overview

This Level 4 Extended Diploma in Computing (Software Developer) is for people who want to build software for a living — not just learn to code but understand the full development lifecycle from design and programming through to testing and deployment.

You'll build a solid foundation across IT systems, programming, databases, networks and professional ethics, then go deep into advanced programming, web development, mobile apps, full-stack principles and software testing frameworks.

All assessments are assignment-based — no exams. Graded Pass, Merit or Distinction, and fully mapped to the UK IfATE Level 4 Software Developer occupational standard.

Modules & Units

Unit Name	Credits	Status
Mandatory Units		
Unit 1: IT Systems Development	15 Credits	Mandatory
Unit 2: Programming and Scripting	10 Credits	Mandatory
Unit 3: Data and Database Systems	15 Credits	Mandatory
Unit 4: Computer Systems, Networks and Security	10 Credits	Mandatory
Unit 5: Legislation, Regulation, Ethics and Codes of Practice	10 Credits	Mandatory
Specialist Units — Software Developer Pathway		
Unit 11: Advanced Programming	10 Credits	Specialist
Unit 12: Web Design and Programming	10 Credits	Specialist
Unit 13: Mobile Applications Development	10 Credits	Specialist
Unit 14: The Principles of Full-Stack Development	10 Credits	Specialist
Unit 15: Software Testing Frameworks and Methodologies	10 Credits	Specialist
Unit 21: Synoptic Computing Project	10 Credits	Specialist

Entry Requirements

Typical Age	19 and above
Academic Qualification	A Level 3 qualification in a related subject or equivalent. A basic understanding of programming or computing concepts is recommended. Relevant work experience is also considered.
English Language	If English is not your first language: IELTS 5.0 CEFR B1+ PTE Academic 36+

Progression & Career Outcomes

Completing this diploma gives direct progression to the second year of a relevant degree at a UK university via the top-up route — typically one additional year to a full BSc (Hons).

Typical degree progressions include BSc (Hons) Software Engineering, BSc (Hons) Computer Science, BSc (Hons) Web Development and BSc (Hons) Computing at UK universities.

Career pathways include Software Developer, Junior Full-Stack Developer, Web Developer, Mobile App Developer, QA Engineer, DevOps Engineer and Applications Developer.