

Introduction to Networking

About the course

This is an introductory course for complete beginners who would like to gain skills in networking technologies and work towards a qualification. You will discover how computers, tablets, phones and other digital devices work together. You will explore how networks work in a home and commercial environment and how data is sent across the Internet. You will have the opportunity to set up, configure and troubleshoot simulated computer networks with Cisco's online network simulator, Packet Tracer. At the end of the course, you will have created a digital portfolio of your work. If successful, you will be ready to progress to our Networking Level 2 course.

What will I learn?

After this course you will be able to:

- Explain how digital devices communicate with each other over a network.
 - Describe how data is transferred over a network.
 - Identify the hardware and software components required to build a network.
 - Build, configure and test a simple network to meets users' requirements.
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What are the entry requirements?

- This course is for beginners with little or no previous knowledge of Networking. However, to access this course we expect you to:
 - Know how to use a Word processing application to produce a portfolio of your work.
 - Know how to organise and save files in folders.
 - Know how to use the Internet for research and study.

- Have a good level of reading and written English and a good level of Maths – all of these will be assessed.
 - Have passed Essential Digital Skills Level 1 (desirable).
 - We use Google Suite for Education to record your learning journey. If you are a new learner with us, we will create an account for you. Details will be sent to your personal email so please check your inbox and spam regularly prior to course start.
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What do I need to bring with me?

- You may bring your own device and mouse if you wish.
 - Please bring your own headphones or earbuds to all lessons. You will need these to listen to short videos.
 - You may wish to bring a piece of paper and a pen to take notes.
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How will my learning be assessed?

This is a non-accredited course to prepare you for the Level 2 Networking Award. Your tutor will give you regular verbal and written feedback to support your progression. You will submit your course work and track your learning in Google Classroom. You will participate in group discussions and receive guidance.

To successfully complete the course your attendance should be a minimum of 85% and course work should be completed by the end of the course. **Please note that the first session is an induction to the course and the centre, therefore it is essential that you attend.** If you for any reason are unable to attend, please let us know and ensure that you read through the induction slides located in your Google Classroom and complete any related tasks.

What can I do after completing this course?

- Networking Level 2 Award.
 - Cybersecurity Level 1 Award
 - You can call us to find out about other upcoming courses on 020 8583 6000
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What will happen if a session is cancelled?

During the COVID19 pandemic we aim to be flexible and to continue to deliver learning in a safe and inclusive environment, whether this is online or in a physical classroom. If you are isolating and are unable to come to class, speak to your tutor or with one of our staff members and we will do our best to find an alternative solution.

Information, advice and guidance for employment

- Call 020 8583 6174 to speak to an advisor
 - Email work@hounslow.gov.uk
 - Visit <http://www.hace.ac.uk/employment-support>
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