

Level 3 V Level in Digital Systems & Data

AQA Questions matter

A quick reference guide to who it's for, what learners will study and how this qualification is assessed.

Draft specification | **First teach: September 2027**

Starting	Size	Age range	Funding
September 2027	480 hours total 360 GLH	16 - 18 & 19+	Eligible

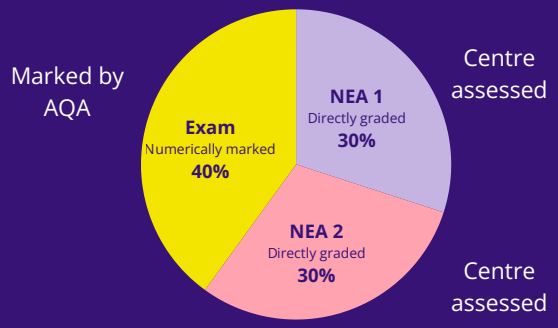
Is it right for my learners?

This qualification underpins core knowledge and skills across Digital Data and Systems that learners can take into the workplace and further study.

There are no formal entry requirements.

How is this qualification assessed?

This qualification combines practical, centre-assessed work with externally marked examination.



Grading

U P E D C B A A*

When does assessment happen?

Year 1

May

NEA 1
10 guided assessment hours
60 marks

Year 2

May

NEA 2
14 guided assessment hours
60 marks

May/June

Terminal Examination
2 hours
80 marks

What is being studied?

The qualification is organised into Core Knowledge and Understanding (CKU) and four Digital Data and Systems (DSD) sections which set out the specific knowledge and skills associated with each Work-Related Purpose (WRP). All learners must complete the CKU and two mandatory content sections (DSD1, DSD2) together with one of the two optional sections (DSD3 or DSD4).

CKU	Core knowledge and understanding	140 GLH
DSD1	Data analysis and presentation for decision making	80 GLH
DSD2	Cyber security monitoring and escalation	60 GLH
DSD3	Digital systems configuration and readiness	80 GLH
DSD4	Digital solution design and development	80 GLH

UCAS tariffs points

A* → 56	C → 32	P → 12
A → 48	D → 24	
B → 40	E → 16	

Good to know

*NEA - Non-exam assessement
*GLH - Guided learning hours
*AC - Assessment Component

Information on applicable performance measures is available from the Department for Education.