

WJEC Digital Technology Newsletter

April 2025

Welcome to the April edition of the Digital Technology Newsletter. Hopefully 2025 has been productive and enjoyable, with a restful Easter Holiday! This edition contains several important updates and resources to share with you. Please read on for key information and opportunities.

Key Dates

Below are some key dates for your diaries:

- **NEA Mark Input Screens available:**
 - GCSE: 10th March 2025
 - GCE: 1st April 2025
- **NEA Submission of samples deadline:**
 - GCSE: 5th May 2025
 - GCE: 15th May 2025
 - **Note:** the NEA submission deadline is the final date in which all work must be uploaded. Marks for candidates should be entered at least 3 weeks prior to this date.
- **Examination Dates:**

Brand & Subject	Unit/Component	Date	AM/PM
GCSE			
WJEC Digital Technology	Unit 1 (on-screen)	03/06/2025	AM
GCE			
WJEC Digital Technology (AS)	Unit 1	02/06/2025	AM
WJEC Digital Technology (A2)	Unit 3	10/06/2025	AM

Professional Learning

If you missed our online “Feedback on Summer Assessments” or our Face-to-Face “Assessment and Classroom Practice” CPD events, the presentations and content are available via Portal [LINK](#).

Changes to be aware of for the coming year:

It is important to note that the submission of NEA work will now be through IAMIS and not Surpass - please follow the guide [HERE](#) to ensure that you are confident with the process, procedures and documentation required.

Digital Technology

We were pleased that the Digital Technology CPD events were well received and that there are new exemplars now available on the Secure Site (Portal).

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It is important to note that the submission of NEA work will now be through IAMIS and not Surpass - please follow the guide [HERE](#) to ensure that you are confident with the process, procedures and documentation required.

As part of our quality assurance and continual improvement processes, the Digital Technology team have made a few small changes to the tasks given to learners. One notable item is that of the naming of their 'root' folders when creating their GCSE and GCE NEA work, we have changed the wording to ask learners to change the name of their root folder to follow the following 'Candidate Reference' naming convention:

- 'Centre Number_Candidate Number'
- For example: '58001_1234'

Updates:

The approval criteria for the reformed Digital Technology specification has been published by Qualifications Wales on their GCSE approval criteria page [HERE](#) - Direct link to Digital Technology file [HERE](#). We are currently using the approval criteria and implementing feedback received from centres from the current specification to ensure that positive aspects of the course continue, and that any negative feedback comments are considered and discussed to make informed choices to produce a positive change.

The approval criteria is the blueprint which is used to reform or change a qualification. The Digital Technology criteria does not contain any major changes, however we are keen to ensure that changes made enhance the course. The upcoming reforms to the GCSE Digital Technology qualification continue to present exciting opportunities for candidates to develop a strong foundation of knowledge, skills, and understanding in the field of Digital Technology.

Continuing with the format of the current course, one key highlight continues to be the emphasis on allowing students to explore a diverse range of Digital Technology systems used across various sectors. This will allow students a comprehensive understanding of the different digital devices, operating systems, software types, and cloud services that are shaping our digital world.

Another continuing aspect is the focus on developing data analysis skills. Students will continue to have the opportunity to learn how to organise, cleanse, and interrogate data using spreadsheet tools. The application of these data analytics skills to plan, develop, and evaluate data-informed digital products, such as websites with animations or video games, that cater to identified trends, needs, or audiences continues within the new approval criteria.

The importance on understanding the value and impact of digital technologies, including digital communications, cybersecurity, and the evolving nature of digital systems remains within the approval criteria. With the effectiveness, benefits, and challenges that digital technologies bring to individuals and organisations, as well as the legal and ethical responsibilities involved which are relevant to students' real-life experiences.

The hands-on experiences are a crucial part of the qualification, with suggestions for the opportunities for students to interact with wearable, sensor-based, or extended reality hardware and peripherals.

Students will also continue to have the chance to explore and investigate real-world online marketing communication campaigns, which has enhanced students understanding of the digital landscape within the current specification.

From working and engagement with professionally produced animations or video games will help develop students' appreciation of the diverse range of careers and work-related areas that use digital technologies. This exposure to the wider applications of digital skills will continue to prepare students for future study and careers in the rapidly evolving digital industry.

Resources

Below are links to some new and helpful resources which might assist you in supporting your teaching:

- **Portal (Secure Site):** [HERE](#)
- **WJEC GCSE Digital Technology Resources:** [HERE](#)
- **WJEC GCE Digital Technology Resources:** [HERE](#)
 - **NEA Features list:** following feedback requests, an NEA features list can be found on Portal, within the “WJEC GCE Digital Technology Assessment and Classroom Practice link”

Examining Opportunities

We are looking for experienced teachers to join our examining team. If you are interested, please review the information regarding the benefits, training and support you will receive and the application process can be found [HERE](#). To apply follow the direct link [HERE](#).

Contact Us

If you have any questions or need further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact us at digitech@wjec.co.uk

Regards,

Gareth Gillard

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