

Case Study



Diploma in Information Technology

A* IT Student

Gaining top marks is a hard feat for any student, but with hard work and dedication to his subject 17 year old Zilvinas Pikelis has achieved an A* in the Level 1 IT Diploma Principal Learning. Zilvinas was more than happy to discuss this experience, what it means for him and his plans for the future.

Very happy and pleased was Zilvinas' reaction after hearing that he had achieved an A* in the Level 1 IT Diploma Principal Learning. Only one of four pupils to have achieved this grade means an awful lot to students such as Zilvinas who want to work in the IT sector, preferably within graphics or web design. The Diploma will give him a good intellectual grounding to build upon in the future.

"I decided to take the IT Diploma in September 2008 as I felt that the content of the qualification was interesting and would provide the knowledge needed to progress to the next level."

Zilvinas was not wrong; the Diploma in IT provides learners with the technical, business and people skills and knowledge that serves as the foundation on which they can go on via further study or work experience to build a successful career in the IT industry.



"Students begin to appreciate how the Functional Skills they have developed, along with the IT and business knowledge gained can be used to manage and produce an in-depth project."

Kevin Lynch, Curriculum Leader for further education at the Thames Valley University

For further information about Diplomas you can contact the Diploma Support Team on:

08700 242466

Or contact an Advisor via email:

queries@diplomainfo.org.uk

Employer engagement

According to Kevin Lynch, Curriculum Leader for further education at the Thames Valley University the Diploma in IT has been well received. "It is a complex qualification and so poses new challenges for both teachers and learners." He adds "teachers recognise that they must become more active in employer engagement and in working with employers to develop learning materials." He concludes "students begin to appreciate how the Functional Skills they have developed, along with the IT and business knowledge gained can be used to manage and produce an in-depth project."

Nothing is more encouraging about the Diploma than the experiences of students who appear to enjoy working on activities and tasks that are related to the real world of IT. Zilvinas has been taught through active learning techniques which encourage students to actively participate in their learning; this approach makes learning more memorable and provides students with a deeper understanding of the material, and as a result has achieved greater success. Taking Level 3 of the IT Diploma is now at the top of his list.

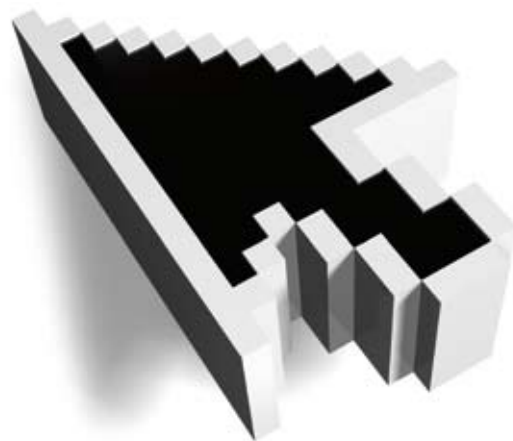
The right approach

AQA-City & Guilds maintains the approach that supporting teachers in the delivery of the Diploma impacts results, and this is a great example. Kevin Lynch has found that AQA-City & Guilds has continued to add to the resources available to teachers and fully believes that this has a positive impact immediately and would do in the future, just like it has done so far in the first half year of teaching.

Asked whether Zilvinas would recommend this qualification to other learners looking to take the IT Diploma, his answer couldn't be straighter – "yes!"

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Zilvinas Pikelis, Thames Valley University



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