

JACK COLE

BTEC Level 3 in Information Technology



Jack Cole is 18 and studied at Exeter College for a BTEC Level 3 in IT. He has recently secured an apprenticeship with The Met Office where he will be studying Network Engineering. We spoke to him in June 2022 about his BTEC experience and to learn more about his career plans.

How do you think studying a BTEC helped get you where you are now?

Studying a BTEC gave me the opportunity to develop and improve my skills and capabilities further so that I could use them within the workplace that I am going into. The assignments and tasks that were required were beneficial as they would get the best quality of work out of me.

Can you describe your BTEC experience? What was it like?

I enjoyed my BTEC experience as there was a range of topics and units covering various bits of content that I enjoyed and would like to learn about even further. On the other hand, there were other topics that I did not enjoy. This was good for me as it figured out which topics I liked and would like to learn about even further with going into an industry that involves them.

Studying a BTEC has increased my ambitions and confidence in wanting to work in an industry that I like and want to be a part of.

How is studying a BTEC preparing you for the career you would like to go into?

By figuring out which topics I enjoyed and would like to learn about even further and in more detail. This was useful when making the decision about what to study after college. I have chosen to study network engineering further as I enjoyed networking at college due to the units we covered, and I thought a networking pathway and career would be suitable and applicable for me. ►

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What did you like most about taking a BTEC?

I liked that the BTEC was assignment based the most, as I struggle with exams and the pressure that it is involved with them. Whereas taking assignments, I could complete work to the best of my ability within the timescale I had to comply with.

Would you recommend taking a BTEC?

I would strongly recommend taking a BTEC as there is a mixture of topics and areas that the content of the course covers. The content can be used to figure which topics the learner particularly likes and dislikes, giving the learner the chance to figure out whether they want to work in an industry that involves IT or not.

How would you say your confidence has changed since taking a BTEC? Has it made you more of a leader or focused your ambitions?

Studying a BTEC has increased my ambitions and confidence in wanting to work in an industry that I like and want to be a part of. Also, giving me the confidence and the ambition of making a difference in the workplace and industry that I am going into, so I can play my role correctly in the way that I should be.

What are your career ambitions for the future?

I decided to study further by securing a role as an apprentice at The Met Office, studying Network Engineering. I decided to apply for this role as I enjoyed networking and I have a passion for it. I am excited and looking forward to be going into the workplace and expanding my skills and knowledge even further.

What did you learn most from a BTEC?

What I learned most is how to work independently and efficiently when completing assignments. Being able to manage my time successfully, taking into consideration timescales and deadlines that I had to meet. This leads to me taking responsibility for the work I am producing with it being of the highest quality. Furthermore, I learnt how to evaluate my work and findings to meet the criteria and the requirements that were asked of me. I also learnt how to find the correct case studies for my assignments.