### T: Level Digital Software Development

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| **Studied during Year 12**  **Core Paper 1**  **Content area 1:** Problem solving Students learn to tackle digital software development problems by applying problem-solving skills. They will analyse issues and identify solutions that can be represented through systems, processes, data structures, or code.  **Content area 2:** Introduction to programming Students are introduced to programming concepts and techniques to design solutions. They will analyse problems involving people, processes, software, and data, and use appropriate tools to develop working programs.  **Content area 3: Emerging issues** Students explore current and future developments in digital technology, considering their impact on individuals, organisations, and society.  **Content area 4: Legislation and regulatory requirements** Students learn about key laws, regulations, and professional standards that govern the design, use, and development of digital systems.  **Core Paper 2**  **Content area 5: Business context** Students examine how digital technologies operate within business environments, including factors that influence organisational strategy, efficiency, and decision-making.  **Content area 6: Data** Students develop core knowledge of data handling within digital development. They will understand how to store, access, check quality, manipulate, analyse, and process data for use in professional contexts.  **Content area 7: Digital environments** Students gain an understanding of digital environments, including hardware, software, networks, and platforms that support the development and deployment of digital solutions.  **Content area 8: Security** Students study the principles of digital security and how to protect systems, people, and data**.**  **Employer Set Project**  The Employer Set Project gives students the chance to apply their learning to a real-world scenario provided by industry. Working to a professional brief, students will solve problems, design and develop digital solutions, and demonstrate the skills employers value most — including teamwork, communication, problem solving, and project management. | **Studied during Year 13**  **Occupational Specialism**  The Occupational Specialism in Digital Software Development is the practical core of the T Level, giving students the opportunity to demonstrate their technical knowledge and skills in a realistic project. Students will analyse problems, design and develop software solutions, and test their outcomes against professional requirements. The OSP brings together key areas such as programming, data handling, security, and emerging technologies, while embedding professional practices like collaboration, communication, and project management. By completing the OSP, students gain the confidence and experience needed to progress into software development roles, higher apprenticeships, or further study in the digital sector.  Topics covered: **Problem solving** – analysing briefs, identifying requirements, and breaking down problems into manageable parts.  **Software design and development** – planning, writing, and testing code to create effective solutions.  **Programming techniques** – using appropriate tools, languages, and methods to build software.  **Working with data** – storing, accessing, manipulating, and analysing data within solutions.  **Security** – applying secure practices and understanding how to protect systems, people, and data.  **Digital environments** – working with the platforms, systems, and networks that support software solutions.  **Emerging issues** – considering new and future technologies, and their social, ethical, and business impact.  **Legislation and regulation** – applying relevant legal, professional, and regulatory requirements to solutions.  **Business context** – understanding how digital projects fit into real organisations and add value.  **Professional skills** – developing communication, teamwork, organisation, and project management abilities. |