Online Courses Recommended for Year 11

These courses represent a new way of learning and it may take a while to adapt to an online environment, but they do potentially provide a rich opportunity for pupils who may wish to "stand out" in future. Most are currently free but require a sign up (we recommend using school email), some with an option to pay for testing and certification. The courses are also available to anyone who signs up and many do not have the same safeguards over comments and discussion forums that are in place in a school environment. As such I would recommend an occasional health check on these courses. We will update the list as new courses are discovered or become available.

Future Learn

Short courses provided by colleges across the world in all categories of learning and vocational settings. Sign up and enrol onto courses for free.

https://www.futurelearn.com/

Examples include :

Innovation: the Fashion Industry

Basic First Aid: How to Be an Everyday Hero

Modern Building Design

Microsoft Certified Qualifications

Ideal for those considering a role in IT / Computing / technical roles, the free Microsoft qualifications can be studied online.

https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/learn/certifications/

An example is learning about cloud based software
https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/learn/paths/azure-fundamentals/

Once completed pupils can continue onto one of the certified programs and gain a qualification that will improve their prospects in computer science and IT vocations.

Also useful for those interested in computing / coding is CODE.org. Sign up for online tutorials and practical activities.

https://studio.code.org/courses/csp-2019

https://studio.code.org/s/applab-intro/stage/1/puzzle/1

Google Digital Garage

A range of modules provided by Google on marketing, data and technology and career development. Includes courses on setting up online businesses, speaking in public, landing a job, graphic design and human resources. A huge array of courses that will open up opportunities for future employment in the digital sector.

https://learndigital.withgoogle.com/digitalgarage

https://learndigital.withgoogle.com/digitalgarage/courses

Khan Academy

Some excellent resources for Key Stage 4 study as well as preparatory work for A levels (example Economics Chemistry). Includes videos and testing to help improve understanding.

https://www.khanacademy.org/

Digital Careers

https://idea.org.uk/

The Inspiring Digital Enterprise Award, known as iDEA is an international programme that helps develop digital, enterprise and employability skills. Through a series of online challenges, pupils can win career-enhancing badges, unlock new opportunities and, ultimately, gain industry-recognised awards.

Languages

Duolingo allows you to choose from over 30 languages – keep up with your French, Spanish or German or learn a new language. Excellent on a phone app or on a tablet / PC.

https://www.duolingo.com/

Sign Language

An online signing course is a comprehensive introduction for anybody who is interested in learning British Sign Language. Another great qualification for a CV. Due to the demands for the course there is a small fee for joining (currently £3 for full time students).

https://british-sign.zendesk.com/hc/en-us/articles/360044794654-Coronavirus-Crisis-Pay-What-you-Can