**BTEC IT Level 2 Preparation**

During the IT course you will be learning software development using Microbit computers. You may have already learnt how to program at School or in your own time. You will be learning a block based language which has been developed for the Microbit by Microsoft and is called MakeCode.

To prepare yourself for the course it is advised that you familiarise yourself with the MakeCode editor and some of the tutorials and games. It is not necessary to purchase a Microbit as there is a simulator which can be used to test your programs. However, if you did wish to purchase a Microbit they cost about £10 and are good value for money.

Using the website <https://makecode.microbit.org/> work through the following tutorials and games. If you wish to complete more you can. The links below may be useful e.g. if you get stuck and need help with a particular code block then the link to reference would be helpful.

1 Flashing heart tutorial

2 Name tag tutorial

3 Dice tutorial

4 Rock paper scissors game

5 Turtle square

6 Turtle spiral

7 Blocks to JavaScript : Starter blocks

8 Blocks to JavaScript: Writing code

9 Coding cards: shake the bottle

10 Coding cards: sprite based games

**Microsoft (2019) Microsoft MakeCode for Micro:bit [Online].**

Available at <https://makecode.microbit.org/> (Accessed 15th April 2020)

**Microsoft (2020) MakeCode Reference [Online].**

Available at <https://makecode.microbit.org/reference> (Accessed 15th April 2020)

**Freshdesk (2019) Micro:bit Support [Online].**

Available at <https://support.microbit.org/support/home> (Accessed 15th April 2020)