Access to H.E.
National Programme Unit

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Unit Title:	Networks and Communication Protocols

Graded Unit Code:	GA33COM07	Ungraded Unit Code:	UA33COM07

Pathway(s):	Computing Hospitality, Leisure and Tourism

Module(s):	Computing

Level:	3	Credit Value:	3

Valid from:	1st August 2014	Valid to:	31st July 2024

The following QAA grade descriptors must be applied if you are delivering the graded version of this unit:

1	Understanding of the subject
2	Application of knowledge
3	Application of skill
7	Quality

LEARNING OUTCOMES	ASSESSMENT CRITERIA
The learner will:	**The learner can:**
1. Understand the nature and applications of different types of network	1.1 Explain the advantages and potential problems associated with sharing resources (e.g. printers and shared storage) using a network
	1.2 Relate network types to their uses; distinguish wide area (WAN) and local area networks (LAN), intranets and the Internet
	1.3 Identify and describe a range of network topologies, and evaluate their advantages in different situations

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LEARNING OUTCOMES	ASSESSMENT CRITERIA	
The learner will:	**The learner can:**	
	1.4	Evaluate the advantages and disadvantages of wired and wireless systems for local area networks
	1.5	Describe the difference between peer-to-peer and server-based networking and evaluate their use in different situations
2 Understand the importance of communication protocols	2.1	Explain the terms bit rate, baud rate baseband and broadband and explain how these affect the speed of communication in networks
	2.2	Describe asynchronous data transmission and explain the use of start and stop bits, odd and even parity
	2.3	Explain the importance of network protocols including *handshaking*
3 Understand the need for network security	3.1	Explain the terms computer viruses, hacking and phishing
	3.2	Evaluate the importance and usefulness of firewalls and digital certificates
	3.3	Evaluate the risks to individuals and organisations of malicious software and the potential effectiveness of anti-virus software