

Practical Electronics

The practical electronics course is primarily designed for pupils that are likely to go to college to study a technical course or go straight into an apprenticeship. It deals with the design, construction and testing of electronic circuits.

Pupils will use the computer program Yenka to design and simulate circuits and report on how they work. They will interpret circuit diagrams to construct temporary versions of a circuit on a prototype board, then constructing a permanent version by soldering components on to circuit board. The pupils have to test and troubleshoot the circuit and report back on how it works. They will be working with very small, delicate components and good manual dexterity is essential.

There are no calculations in the Nat 4 course but there are some in the Nat 5 course. It is preferable that pupils have studied Physics (S3, Nat 4 or Nat 5) or Engineering Science (Nat 4 or Nat 5) at some point (especially for the Nat 5 course), but it is not essential.

The plan is to run the course as Nat 4 only in S4 and Nat 5 in S5/6, there is no Higher version of this course. We also plan on charging £10 per term (total £30) as there are high running costs associated with the course.