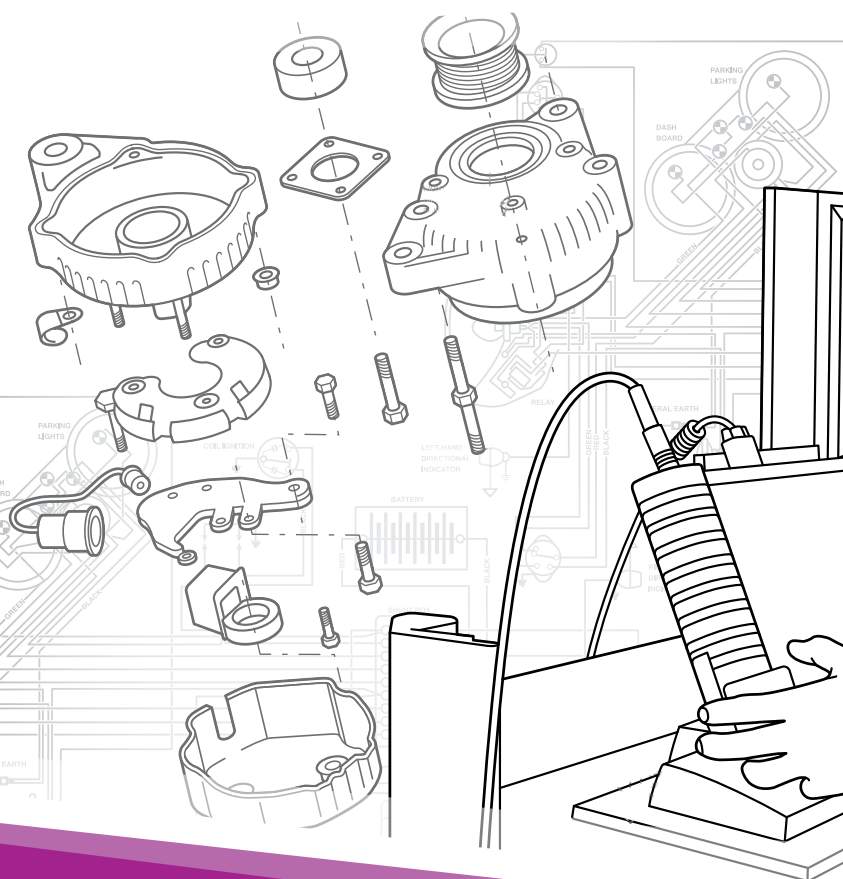


The Diploma

In Engineering – with Automotive Specialist Learning



Bringing
learning
to life



THE INSTITUTE OF THE MOTOR INDUSTRY



► The Diploma

The Diploma has been designed by employers for employers so that young people are better prepared for work. The first schools and colleges will be offering Diplomas in September 2008. Diplomas are not replacing GCSEs and A levels, but give different options.

- The opportunity to make automotive engineering an attractive career choice – attracting higher calibre candidates
- Supporting the Diploma can count as part of your Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) programme

What's in it for you?

- A route to minimising future recruitment costs by identifying work-ready candidates at an early stage
- The ability to develop your future workforce to meet the specialised needs of your business



► What is included in the Diploma?

Compulsory Units – Principal Learning

Diploma students will complete a series of compulsory units, all designed to give them knowledge, skills and expertise. They will learn about the importance of engineering, design, materials, electronics systems, maintenance and manufacturing.

Automotive Specialist Learning

This covers the foundation skills and knowledge associated with the repair, servicing and maintenance of automotive vehicles and explores the fundamental principles of automotive vehicle design, construction and associated safety features. The units of the automotive route cover:

- Light Vehicle • Heavy Vehicle • Motorcycle Systems • Component Appreciation • Engine • Transmission
- Braking • Steering • Suspension • Electrical Systems • Wheels and Tyres

The following automotive specialist routes are available:

- Light Vehicle • Heavy Vehicle • Motorcycle • Body Repair • Paint Refinishing

The Student Project

All Diploma students need to complete a project to demonstrate the skills and knowledge they have gained. For example, they might design a car powered by solar energy or they might develop a competitive cost comparison for commonly purchased items in a workshop.

Work Experience

Diploma students will do a minimum of 10 days of work experience with local employers, giving them the chance to experience working in the motor industry.

Personal, Learning and Thinking Skills

Mastering essential life and work skills is essential in today's competitive job market, so all Diploma students are encouraged to develop skills like teamwork and self management as part of their course. They will also learn how to express themselves confidently and how to apply their knowledge and skills creatively in a business environment.

English Maths and ICT

All Diploma students need to achieve a minimum standard in English, Maths and ICT. They will be able to study these subjects as part of the Diploma or take them as GCSEs alongside it.

► What does a Diploma lead to?

Examples of the progression routes available are on the chart below.

Age	Options			
14-16	Level 1 Diploma	Level 2 Diploma	Young Apprenticeships	GCSEs
16-19	Level 3 Diploma Level 1 and 2 Diplomas also available	Other vocational learning	Apprenticeships	A levels
19+	Employment	Higher Education	Further Education	

► Diploma levels

There are three levels of Diploma. Entrance to a level is dependent on the knowledge, skills and understanding required.

Foundation Diploma – Level 1

Starting in year 10, equivalent to 5 GCSEs, grade D to G.

Higher Diploma – Level 2

Starting in year 10, equivalent to 7 GCSEs, grade A* to C.

Advanced Diploma – Level 3

Starting in year 12 or above, equivalent to 3.5 A Levels and will be accepted by universities and colleges, as well as allowing students to go directly into work if appropriate.

Progression Diploma – Level 3

Equivalent to 2.5 A Levels suiting those do not wish to complete a whole Advanced Diploma.

It generally takes two years to complete a Diploma; in some cases students may be able to complete one in less, for example if a Foundation or Higher Diploma is taken at age 16.

► How can you help?

Employers' involvement in supporting experiences of work is key to the success of the Diploma. This could take the form of:

- Providing work placements of varying duration
- Offering support or placements for teaching staff
- Attending career events in local schools – contact your local education authority to do this

- Getting involved in career/industry days
- Supporting mock-interview workshops
- Supporting Enterprise Challenge events



► The Diploma in Engineering – with Automotive Specialist Learning

Students opting to study the Diploma will be introduced to the key principles of automotive engineering. They will learn what engineering is all about and examine the different opportunities our sector has to offer.

You will have the opportunity to work with students to enhance their learning, whether in the workplace, or via their place of learning.

The Diploma is designed to be relevant to our sector and to open up a wide range of career opportunities. Students will have the chance to do part of their learning outside their school or college, with at least 10 days working with an employer, developing their skills and experiencing the workplace for the first time.



► Useful contacts

For more information on providing work placements contact your local **Connexions** service, call **080 800 13 2 19**.

For more information on contacting your local education authority, visit the Department for Children, Schools and Families web site www.dfes.gov.uk/localauthorities

For more information on the Diploma in Engineering – with Automotive Specialist Learning, visit The Institute of the Motor Industry (IMI) web site www.motor.org.uk

For more information about Diplomas visit www.direct.gov.uk/diplomas



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skills FOR BUSINESS

The IMI is the Sector Skills Council for the automotive retail industry, part of the Skills for Business network.