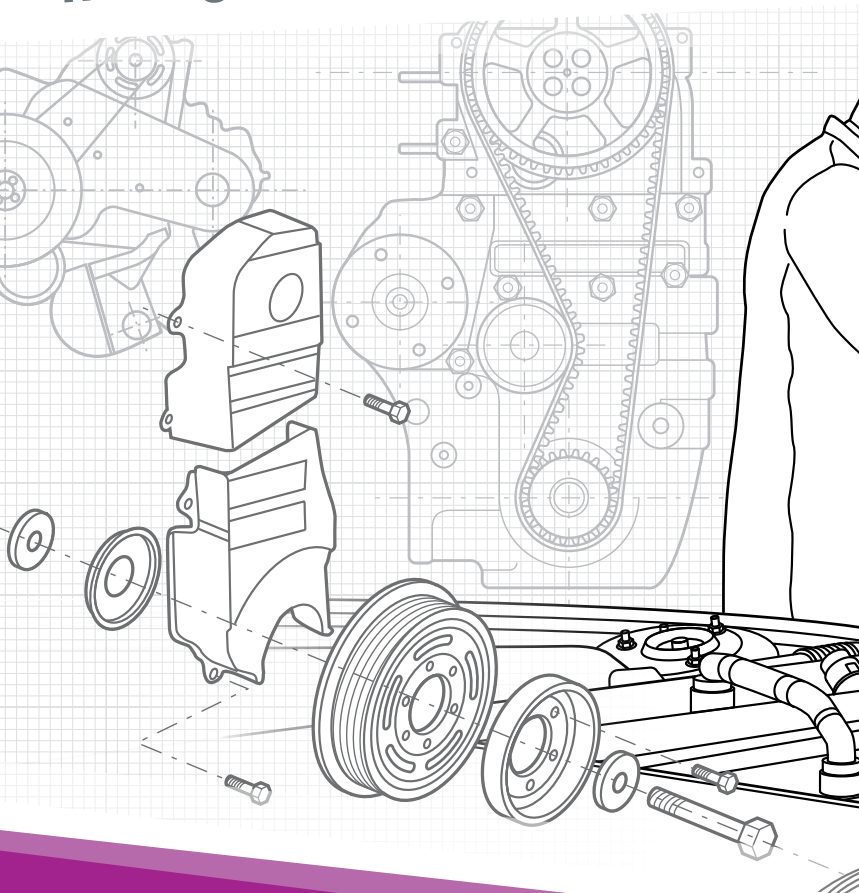


# The Diploma

**In Engineering – with Automotive Specialist Learning**



Bringing  
your  
learning  
to life

**imi**

THE INSTITUTE OF THE MOTOR INDUSTRY



## ► Introducing the Diploma

In September 2008 a new qualification for 14 to 19-year-olds is being introduced – The Diploma. This is an alternative to the traditional GCSE route, but one which keeps just as many options open.

It could lead to a job, training or further study. Diplomas are not replacing GCSEs and A levels, but give you a different option, and you can take some GCSEs or A Levels as well.

The Diploma is a qualification based around work and you will have opportunities to experience different styles of learning in different environments, with an emphasis on practical activities. This broad mix of knowledge, understanding and skills will equip you for employment, continuing at school or going on to college or university. You will need a whole range of skills in life and the new Diploma will help you to develop skills and experience that employers, universities and colleges really value.



## ► The Diploma in Engineering – with Automotive Specialist Learning

You will be introduced to some of the key principles of automotive engineering and you will gain an understanding of these. You will learn what engineering is all about and examine the different opportunities it has to offer. As well as understanding the theory behind automotive engineering, you will learn practical skills and develop an ability to solve problems both individually and as part of a team.

The course is designed to be interesting, relevant to modern vehicles and to open up a wide range of educational, training and career opportunities. You will have the chance to do part of your learning working with employers, developing your skills and experiencing what work is really like.

## ► What will the Diploma lead to?

The Diploma is designed to give you a wide range of options. The Progression and Advanced Diploma could both lead to college or university, or to further training and employment. If you complete a Foundation or Higher Diploma, you may choose to go on to do a Progression or Advanced Diploma, A Levels or other vocational qualifications. You could also decide to start an Apprenticeship or take a job with further training.

Taking the Diploma in Engineering with Automotive Specialist Learning does not mean you have to pursue a career in this sector, the Diploma will give you relevant, transferable skills that will be welcomed by colleges, universities and employers.

**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 GCSE's, grade D to G.

### Higher Diploma – Level 2

Starting in year 10, equivalent to 7 GCSE's, 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.

### Progression Diploma – Level 3

Equivalent to 2.5 A Levels suiting those who do not wish to complete an Advanced Diploma.

## ► What is included in the Diploma?

### Compulsory Units – Principal Learning

Engineering Diploma students will complete a series of compulsory units, all designed to give you knowledge, skills and expertise. You 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 the associated safety features. The units of the automotive route cover light vehicle, heavy vehicle and motor cycle systems and component appreciation, which includes engine, transmission, braking, steering, suspension, electrical systems, wheels and tyres.

Consult with your teachers or careers advisor about which of the following options are available in your area:  
Light Vehicle • Heavy Vehicle • Motor Cycle • Body Repair • Paint Refinishing

### The Project

All Diploma students will complete a project to demonstrate the skills and knowledge they have gained, for example you might design a car powered by electricity or solar energy.

### Work Experience

Diploma students will do a minimum of 10 days experience of work where you will also get the chance to learn from professionals working in 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. You will also learn how to express yourself confidently, and how to apply your knowledge and skills creatively in a business environment.

### English Maths and ICT – Functional Skills

All Diploma students need to achieve a minimum standard in English, Maths and ICT, you will study these subjects as part of the Diploma.



## ► Today's motor industry

Part of a huge global industry, employing some 580,000 individuals in 67,000 businesses; the motor industry in the UK is one of today's most dynamic sectors of employment and is worth more than £140 billion per year to the UK economy.

Manufacturers continue to push back the boundaries of technology, resulting in vehicles of increasingly high quality and performance. Areas such as vehicle manufacture and design, maintenance, body repair and refinishing, air-conditioning and electrical systems are

becoming increasingly complex, demanding excellent technical skills in a range of hi-tech disciplines, using state-of-the-art specialist equipment.

The automotive industry offers numerous opportunities, if you have the drive, confidence and ability to perform in this challenging and dynamic sector. The rewards can be very attractive, with opportunities at every level to move up to the next step in your career.



## ► I am interested in the Diploma, what should I do now?

You should talk to your teachers or careers advisor.

For more information on the Diploma in Engineering – with Automotive Specialist Learning visit The Institute of the Motor Industry (IMI) website **[www.motor.org.uk](http://www.motor.org.uk)**

For more information about the Diplomas visit **[www.direct.gov.uk/diplomas](http://www.direct.gov.uk/diplomas)**



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THE INSTITUTE OF THE MOTOR INDUSTRY

# skills

FOR BUSINESS

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