

**NEW FOR 2011!**



# **COURSE IN COMPUTER REFURBISHMENT**

## **Level 1 Diploma in Recycling Activities (WEEE - Computer Refurbishment)(QCF)**

**80 HOUR COURSE**

### **Aims of the course:**

- 1 To enable students to be competent in the necessary skills and methodology required to refurbish a personal computer.
- 2 To enable students to work towards a QCF Level 1 Diploma in ICT and provide the confidence and knowledge to continue to a Level 2 or above qualification in ICT.
- 3 Students will be working at Level 1. The main aim of the programme of Computer Refurbishment is to build knowledge of, and confidence with, computers. Whilst it does not address the wider user end software application of computers, in order to meet the criteria of Developing, Presenting and Communicating Information the course may lead to further study, or run concurrently with another course, addressing that area of study.
- 4 To provide a consistent and measurable programme of study that is broken down into seven smaller units and enable students with particular demands, such as those in prisons, to continue their studies even though they may move venues or their studies be interrupted.

### **Course Objective**

To enable students to be competent in the necessary skills and methodology required to refurbish a personal computer. The course comprises 7 key units of work, each of which will be followed by or include an assessment of the unit.

- Unit 1** • Course introduction and the reasons for recycling and refurbishment.  
• Health and Safety and Dealing with Emergencies.  
• Introduction to computers.
- Unit 2** • Removal of case and cleaning of computer.
- Unit 3** • Re-assembly, testing and repairing.
- Unit 4** • Wiping of hard drives and data removal.
- Unit 5** • Installation of operating systems, drivers and any necessary hardware.
- Unit 6** • Quality assurance testing.
- Unit 7** • Procedure checks and labelling of computer.

**Case studies overleaf**

**For further information contact:  
Computers for Charities  
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[www.computersforcharities.org](http://www.computersforcharities.org)  
Registered Charity No. 1107802**



## CASE



## STUDY

This young man in his early twenties had an interest in computing borne from helping his brother, who has learning difficulties, to use and maintain his own pc. He had always wanted to work with young people with learning difficulties and although he had had several interviews for employment within this field, had been unsuccessful in obtaining a job.

On reflection and having requested feedback about his prospects working in Care, he was told he did not have a skill that stood out and made him different from other candidates and as he was quite shy in himself, he was always seen as an 'also ran'. The opportunity to attend the Computer Maintenance and Refurbishment Course arose through his contact with the local Adult Learning Department.

The course stimulated his interest in working with computers and on completion he put his new found skills into practice repairing and refurbishing his family and friends computers. Word spread about his ability and on his next interview he was able to discuss his recent course. This new skill set raised his profile and the employers could see what an asset he would be in assisting his clients to keep up with technology and assist them to maintain their own pc's.

He got the job and is happily 18 months into his new fulltime career where he uses his skills weekly.

## CASE



## STUDY

This man in his 40's is a father of four children who has chosen to be a 'stay at home dad' until his youngest boys are in full-time education. Obviously this has meant a lot of time at home and on a low income. He wanted to do something that was for himself and was flexible.

The Computer refurbishment course was to be piloted in Shetland and it was suggested he give it a go. He enjoyed the course very much, being practical and not too much 'teaching', 'classroom' work. The course enabled him to meet other people, some of which he keeps in touch with, but most essentially gave him a skill that he continues to apply.

He obtained old computers for his children and refurbished them (all very useful on a low income). He asked to be a volunteer on a local project to put his skills to real, practical use to help others and enjoyed that so much that he took further training as a volunteer tutor, assisting other with their literacy and ICT needs.

He says if he had not said yes to the course he would still be sat in his house looking after kids all day. The fact that the course was practical was a gentle way back into education, with a valuable skill at the end of it.

## CASE



## STUDY

This man, in his early 50's had become reclusive and was using alcohol to get through the day. He had lost his confidence and self-respect and did not value anything about himself. His support worker suggested he attend the computer repair and refurbishment course that was going to be run at the Salvation Army building in town.

After some discussion he agreed to give it a go. He was surprised that he was able to learn and found the instructor to be 'down to earth' and quite practical, not like a teacher at all. He met others and got on with them well. He has only used the skills he learned with his home computer, but the course gave him the confidence to go onto further learning at the local college and is due to finish his year long course this summer.

If the course had not been practical and if the instructor had not been so friendly, he feels he would never have gone back to learning.

