Task 1 – All about me

The Access to HE diploma consists of 5 streams of units:

Business Applications	Databases & Web Design	Programming	Networks	Research
Information Systems	Setting up DBs	Introduction to programming	Systems Security	Academic Study Skills
Presentation Software	Querying DBs	Programming project	Networks	Independent Academic study
Spreadsheet	DB concepts		Hardware & software	
Applying IT Skills	Web Design			

The class will comprise students from a range of backgrounds. You need to create a PowerPoint presentation to introduce yourself to the class, explaining who you are, what you have been doing since you left school, your hobbies and interests.

Task 2 – Independent academic study

The IAS requires you to write a report on a computer related topic of your choice. In preparation for this you should research at least three topics using the following sites as a starting point:

- http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/technology/ ,

- http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b006m9ry (Click) and

- http://www.wired.co.uk/ .

Prepare 400 words on your reasons for choosing your topics - explain why the area of the subject is important to study and make reference to research you have found.

Task 3 – Personal Statement and University Choices

The Access to HE diploma is an intensive course with the aim of getting you into a university of your choice. Part of that process includes helping you apply through the University and College Admission Service (UCAS).

Think about the course you want to go on to study. Computer Science courses vary as each University offers its own combination of modules so look at what is offer.

In the table below record the key information for up to 5 courses:

University	Course	UCAS Code	Entry Reqs	Notes

Personal Statement

Personal statements are important. As Access students, you have to explain your decision to enter education as a mature student. Admissions tutors at universities are looking for mature students who understand how they got where they are and are clear on where they want to go.

Pointers:

- Avoid negativity, but be honest. If school didn't work for you, briefly explain why and show why you are looking to enter education now

- Universities value life experience. Showing that you can understand the importance of events and choices demonstrates the higher thinking skills that Universities want to see.

- Show interest in what you want to do, and be clear about what your future job will involve.

Layout:

1. Intro paragraph (10% Outline your subject choice and inspiration to study

2. Information on your course at Chichester, your academic skills, subject knowledge and how this feeds into your University course choice 35%

3. Relevant Experiences/transferable skills 35%

4. Hobbies 10%

5. Conclusion 10%

You should write a partial first draft of your personal statement. This must be word processed and should cover sections 1, 3 & 4. There is support in college to help you with your UCAS applications and your personal statement. Workshops will held in the first term to guide you.