

Your action plan to support this unit is that you will be able to:

Action	Completed by
Evaluate information in terms of its accuracy, validity, reliability, plausibility and bias	
Understand that information takes up space and must be stored; the ways in which information can be stored	
Understand that ICT systems can present static or changing information	
Understand that information can be directly and dynamically linked between applications	
Know how applications and information can be shared with other people at remote locations	
Understand the legal requirements regarding the storage of information and the ethical issues	

Understanding the nature of information has become important in the modern world because the new technologies have allowed us to process, store and share information in ways which could not have been imagined by our forebears.

Information is transforming the way we work and the way we live our lives. The industrial society is changing into the information society and it is important for us to understand the nature of information and to be confident in our ability to make use of it. We also need to be aware of the implications of people having access to so much information, which raises issues about evaluating information rather than accepting it implicitly.

In order to understand the nature of information, it is necessary to have a basic understanding of the ways in which ICT handles, processes and stores information so that we can make use of it and to be aware of the ways in which it can be shared. The fact that it can be shared and accessed by so many people means that we also need to consider the important legal and ethical issues.