Overview

For the "**Ethical, legal and environmental impacts of digital technology on wider society, including issues of privacy**" unit of the AQA specification, no specific information must be learnt. However, exams may ask questions that require students to explain "current ethical, legal and environmental impacts and risks of digital technology on society. Where data privacy issues arise these should be considered."

Open Source Code vs Proprietary Software

Open source code is shared freely, usually on line. Everyone is allowed to use it. **Proprietary software** is privately owned and you must pay to use it.

Areas Covered

Exam questions will be taken from the following areas:

- cyber security
- mobile technologies
- wireless networking
- cloud storage
- theft of computer code
- issues around copyright of algorithms
- cracking
- hacking
- wearable technologies
- computer based implants.

These points are taken from the specification.

Privacy (Ethical Issues)

Private Citizens

> Ordinary citizens generally value their privacy and do not like it when governments or security services have too much access.

Governments & Security Services

> It is difficult for governments to protect citizens from crime (especially terrorism) without access to private data.

Article 12 of the Declaration of Human Rights is often cited in defence of privacy:

> "No one shall be subjected to arbitrary interference with his privacy, family, home or correspondence, nor to attacks upon his honour and reputation. Everyone has the right to the protection of the law against such interference or attacks."

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