

Level 3 Courses

Applied Science - Level 3 BTEC

What will I learn?

In year 12 you will study for a National Certificate in Applied Science comprising three compulsory units over the year. If you pass this and continue into Year 13, you will study three additional optional units to gain a Subsidiary Diploma in Applied Science. Currently, BTEC credits can be converted into UCAS points for university applications. The Certificate is equivalent to one AS Level and the Subsidiary Diploma equivalent to one A Level.

In the first year, you will study a broad range of units that cover work-related or vocational science topics, including analytical techniques and theory in chemistry, microscopy, and laboratory design. The course has a high proportion of technical and practical science that is backed up with relevant theory in all sciences.

How will I be assessed?

Each unit is assessed by means of 2-4 assignments per unit along with evidence that you have completed the required practical work. Assignment Brief documents are issued to all students during the unit and these provide all the necessary information and grading criteria. Completed assignments are awarded Pass, Merit or Distinction and you accumulate points through the year that count towards your final award. There are no written exams for BTEC.

What can the qualification lead to?

BTEC Level 3 can enable you to work in industry, the health service, government establishments and educational institutions. Fields of work include research and development and scientific analysis. There are job opportunities in almost every industry, from food and drink to pharmaceuticals.

Highlights

This course is vocational and so always makes the science that you learn relevant to real-world tasks and problems, whether that is preparing samples for forensic analysis or learning about medical techniques. We aim to make strong links with local science-based businesses and organise trips to give students a taste of the relevance of science to business and research. There have been some excellent results with many students achieving distinctions.

Entry requirements

A minimum of six A*-C GCSE passes plus a grade C or above in Additional or Core Science at GCSE or Level 2 BTEC Science.