

The Pearson Level 3 Alternative Academic Qualification BTEC National in Applied Science (Extended Certificate) is suitable for all students who wish to build upon all three science specialisms studied at GCSE, as the course will broaden your understanding of science and its applications in the workplace.

This course takes a different approach to the traditional A-Level route and provides the skills that employers are looking for. If you want a career in Medical Science, Forensic Science, Nursing, Allied Health Careers, Pharmaceutical Science or as a science technician in a lab to name a few, then Applied Science is for you.

Qualities and qualifications needed

Grade 5 in GCSE Biology, Chemistry and Physics or Grade 5,5 in Combined Science. Additionally, a Grade 5 or above in Mathematics is desirable to cope with the mathematical demands of this course.

You need to have an interest in Science and enjoy practical work, as well as being organised, self-motivated, independent and have the ability to meet deadlines.

How will the course be assessed?

Formal assessment includes:

- Home Learning Assessments
- End of topics tests
- Practical assessment

Units 1, 2 and 3 are externally examined.

Unit 4 and the option unit are internally assessed.



Course Content

The course is assessed via examinations (50%) and coursework (50%). Learners will study four units over the duration of the course:

Unit1

Principles and Applications of Biology
(externally assessed examination)

This unit explores the key components of biological science. It will examine cells and tissues, their varied structures and functions and the biological components that interact with their existence.

Unit2

Principles and Applications of Chemistry
(internally assessed)

Students will explore some of the fundamental concepts which underpin the chemistry and chemical reactions of the world around them.

Unit3

Principles and Applications of Physics
(externally assessed practical task)

Examinations

Students will explore the use of practical and mathematical skills in the study of waves, motion and electricity.

Unit4

Practical Scientific Procedures and Techniques
(internally assessed)

Students will be introduced to quantitative laboratory techniques, including chromatography, colorimetry and laboratory safety, which are relevant to scientific laboratory environments.

Optional Unit (internally assessed)

In this unit you will:

- A. Undertake a literature search and review to produce an investigative project proposal.
- B. Produce a plan for an investigative project based on a proposal.
- C. Safely undertake the project, collecting, analysing and presenting the results.
- D. Present the conclusions from the project using correct scientific principles.

Methods of curriculum delivery

The course is designed to develop scientific knowledge and understanding linked to practical roles in the workplace, whilst learning a wide range of skills. Guided learning is accompanied by practical activities and ongoing assessment and feedback. Group work, research, reports, presentation and discussion develops students' problem-solving abilities, independence and confidence.