

BTEC Applied Science

Examination board & syllabus: Edexcel BTEC Level 3 Applied Science

Minimum Entry Requirements: GCSE Science Grade 4 and Maths GCSE Grade 4

Course Outline:

The course is split into 4 modules. Each of these is a mixture of Biology, Chemistry and Physics, where students have to demonstrate investigative and analytical skills.

Unit 1 – Principles and Applications of Science - This unit is tested by exam. The content will be a mixture of Biology, Chemistry and Physics further developing scientific understanding and ideas. The exam carries 25% of the final grade.

Unit 2 - Practical procedures and scientific techniques - where students will look at how Science is carried out, different investigative techniques, analyse data and look at peer review across the scientific community linking in the ideas they have developed from unit 1.

Unit 3 - Science investigation skills - This will be a series of practical tasks where students will have to plan and design experiments, interpret, analyse and evaluate their results.

Unit 4 – Optional unit. This unit will further develop Biological ideas completing research and a variety of investigations.

Assessment:

1 examined unit and 3 units assessed on work done in the students' portfolios.

Equipment required / Approx Cost:

Scientific Calculator (From £5), Memory stick for computer work at home and in school.

Independent Study Tips:

20 minutes' review of each lesson in addition to any homework set.

Higher Education Progression:

This course is useful for all science degrees, rated by universities and recognised by employers.

Career Opportunities:

This qualification will be useful for many science-related jobs, for example:

Quality control technician, working in hospitals as a medical technician, work in a research laboratory developing drugs, working in a forensic science laboratory, working in chemical companies developing animal feeds, working for a scientific journal or magazine, working in a biotechnology laboratory.

Useful Websites:

<http://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/btec-nationals/applied-science-2016.html#tab-1>