

Statement of Purpose

501/0073/7 – Pearson BTEC Level 1 Diploma in Applied Science

Who is this qualification for?

This level 1 qualification is aimed at students over the age of 14 working at this level who want to develop the knowledge and skills needed to progress to further study and ultimately to employment in the Applied Science or a related sector. It provides an introduction to the sector, enabling students to make informed future progression choices while developing and applying their knowledge and acquiring a range of relevant practical, communication and personal development skills.

What will the student study as part of this qualification?

All the content of the qualification, relates directly to the skills, knowledge and understanding needed to support students in progressing to further study in the Applied Science sector. Students can choose from a broad range of optional units providing an introduction to Applied Science.

The diploma is 37 credits in size, taken from a choice of 14 optional units. The units cover subjects including; working in the sector, forensics, cosmetics, scientific observations, physics and healthier living.

What knowledge and skills will the student develop as part of this qualification and how might these be of use and value in further studies?

By developing the sector knowledge and skills outlined above, students will be well prepared for progression to a level 2 Applied Science related qualification.

The portfolio-based approach to assessment will also support the development of communication skills such as extended writing and drafting, critical skills of analysis, team-working, working from a prescribed brief, working to deadlines, presenting information effectively, accurately completing tasks and processes and study skills such as research and time management. These skills will help support progression to level 2 and any future chosen course.

Is this qualification available in an apprenticeship?

This is a level 1 qualification and is not available as part of an apprenticeship.

What are the qualification outcomes?

The primary outcome of this qualification is to support students' progression to the next level of learning by developing their knowledge and skills in Applied Science which will support further study. In addition the practical nature of the qualification will suit students who are returning or re-engaging with learning and need to consolidate their learning, social and employability skills before considering entering work.

What higher level learning will this qualification lead to?

Students who complete this qualification may progress to level 2 Applied Science qualifications such as the Pearson BTEC Level1/Level 2 First Award, Certificate, extended Certificate or diploma in Applied Science, GCSE in Science or use their acquired transferable skills to progress to other vocational related sectors.

Why choose the Diploma sized qualification?

The BTEC Level 1 Diploma in Applied Science provides a comprehensive introduction to the sector and is appropriate for students who have a clear intention to work within the Science sector or study the subject at a higher level. By studying the diploma, students will secure a strong foundation of knowledge and skills in preparation for higher level learning.

Pearson offers both the Award and Certificate sized qualifications in Applied Science for students who wish to study the subject in less depth due to their learning needs and/or the make-up of their wider learning programme. The Award for example provides a brief introduction, whereas the Certificate provides a broader coverage of the sector. The Diploma is significantly larger in size (37 Credits) than the Certificate (13 credits) and the Award (6 Credits). The different sizes will determine the depth and breadth of sector knowledge and skills covered.

The Diploma is for those students with a clear intention of progressing into employment in the sector. Whereas the Certificate and Award allow for study of additional subjects for those students who may want to have a more mixed programme giving them experience of more than one sector ahead of choosing one for further study or training.

Some students will consider the smaller sized qualifications to allow additional time to be spent on securing English and Mathematics skills, so that they are prepared to progress to the next stage.

Students should consider the appropriate sized qualification according to their learning needs and their intended progression destination.

Who supports this qualification?

This qualification is supported by Pearson centres including:

- Mid Kent College
- Central College Nottingham
- South and City College

Further Information

http://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/BTEC-Entry-Level-and-Level-1/Applied-Science/2010/Specification/9781446908549_Entry_Lvel_1_ApSc_Issue_3.pdf