

BTEC HIGHER NATIONALS

A practical route to your child's future

Higher education that works for them.

Not every student wants, or needs, the same route after school or college.

BTEC Higher Nationals (HND/HNC) are level 4 and 5 qualifications that offer a practical, career-focused pathway that can help your child build real-world skills, gain confidence and progress towards employment, further study or a full degree.

Why consider a Higher National?



Career-focused learning

Your child can develop skills connected to real jobs and industries.



Flexible progression

Higher Nationals can support progression to employment, further study or degree top-up options.



A practical approach

Learning is applied, hands-on and designed to build confidence.



More choice

A Higher National can be a smart option for students who want a different route into higher education.





Learning is changing

Higher education is becoming more flexible. From January 2027, the **Lifelong Learning Entitlement (LLE)** will support more flexible access to higher-level learning for eligible learners in England.

That means learning may increasingly become something people build over time - returning to study, developing new skills and progressing as their goals change.

A BTEC Higher National can be a strong first step in that journey.

Questions to ask

Encourage your child to ask:

Do I want to keep degree options open?

Do I want to start work sooner?

What skills do I need for the career I want?

What kind of learning suits me best?

Would practical learning suit me better?

Download the Student Guide



Speak to your child's tutor or careers adviser about BTEC Higher Nationals

Different route. Same destination.

Visit: go.pearson.com/hnstudentguide