

Statement of Purpose

600/6424/9 – Pearson BTEC Level 3 90-credit Diploma in Aviation Operations (QCF)

The UK Aviation sector contributes over £17bn annually to the economy from overseas visitors alone. Over 120,000 staff is employed by 2,000 organisations, providing a vital transportation link for individuals and trade. With roles including Flight Crews, Grounds Staff, Flight Engineers as well as Air Traffic Control, the Aviation industry offers individuals an interesting career with many progression opportunities.

The Pearson BTEC Level 3 90-credit Diploma in Aviation Operations (QCF) is part of a larger suite of aviation/travel and tourism qualifications, in a range of sizes, which share the common purpose of helping people to become occupationally ready to take up employment in the aviation/travel and tourism sector at the appropriate level. This can follow either directly after achieving the qualification, or via the stepping stone of Higher Education (HE) in university or college. By studying a Pearson BTEC National, learners develop knowledge, understanding and skills required by the sector, including essential employability skills, and apply them in real work contexts. Learners can operate at a standard that can reasonably be expected of an 18 year old in full-time education or employment.

Within this suite, the Pearson BTEC Level 3 90-credit Diploma (563 GLH) is a Technical Level qualification, equivalent in size to one and a half A levels. It has been designed as a one-year course, enabling learners to develop a common core of knowledge, including security in the aviation industry, and allowing them the opportunity to study in more depth a range of option areas of their choice, such as inter-relationships in the aviation industry. This Pearson BTEC Level 3 90-credit Diploma could either be for learners starting their final year of education, for example after taking a level 2 qualification post-16 and wishing to follow a coherent one-year course at level 3, or for learners who wish to complete their course after one year and move into an apprenticeship or training with an employer.

As the qualification was designed in close collaboration with industry, it is fully supported by the Sector Skills Council (SSC) for the sector, People 1st. As a leading professional body, the Royal Aeronautical Society has also confirmed its support for this Pearson BTEC level 3 90-credit Diploma. This means it is a highly respected route for those who wish to move into employment in the sector, either directly or following further study.

A significant proportion of recruitment in this sector is at graduate level. The Pearson BTEC Level 3 90-credit Diploma in Aviation Operations (QCF) also provides a well-established route into a variety of specialist Higher Education (HE) courses in this sector and beyond when taken alongside other qualifications appropriate for the desired course of study. UCAS has reviewed the qualification to assess its value for access to Higher Education, and has allocated UCAS points. See details published on the Pearson website here:

<http://www.edexcel.com/i-am-a/student/results/Pages/BTEC-equivalence.aspx>