

Statement of Purpose

600/6425/0 – Pearson BTEC Level 3 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 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 BTEC Diploma, 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 Diploma (743 GLH) is a Technical Level qualification, equivalent in size to two A levels, which has been designed to occupy two-thirds of a full-time curriculum, enabling learners to develop a significant common core of knowledge, including security in the aviation industry and inter-relationships within the UK aviation industry, and providing extensive opportunity to study in more depth a range of option areas of their choice, such as environmental impacts of aviation, airfield operations and aircraft marshalling. It can be studied part time by learners in schools, colleges and other training provider organisations

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 Diploma in Aviation Operations (QCF). 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 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>