



Pearson

Purpose Statement

Name of regulated qualification	
QAN: 603/0861/8	Title: Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Extended Diploma in Construction and the Built Environment (1080 GLH)

Overview
<p>The construction sector</p> <p>Construction is a very important global industry and is worth £90 billion annually to the UK economy. At technician level and beyond, there is a diverse range of career pathways, with established professional entry and development routes in civil engineering, building services engineering, design/architecture and construction supervision/management. Currently, qualified construction technicians, managers and professionals are highly sought after in the UK industry, with demand for a greater number of professionals to implement and lead low-carbon and sustainable building projects in an efficient, cost-effective way.</p> <p>Who is this qualification for?</p> <p>The Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Extended Diploma in Construction and the Built Environment is intended as a Tech Level qualification, equivalent in size to 3 A Levels and, as such, is designed as a two-year full-time programme of study. It allows you to develop a substantial core of knowledge, to study in depth a full range of optional units of your choice and to develop the broader skills highly valued by higher education institutions, such as critical thinking, and the range of written and verbal communications required in the construction sector.</p> <p>The qualification would suit you if you are studying full time over a period of two years and want to pursue a career in construction, proceed directly to employment as a technician or progress to higher education. The qualification is intended to meet the requirements for registration as a technician.</p>

No prior study of the sector is needed, but you should normally have a range of achievement at level 2, in GCSEs or equivalent qualifications, including English, mathematics and science.

What does the qualification cover?

The content of this qualification has been developed in consultation with employers and professional bodies to ensure that it is appropriate for those interested in working in the sector. In addition, higher education representatives have been involved to ensure that it fully supports entry to the relevant range of specialist degrees.

The qualification provides the knowledge, understanding and skills that will allow you to progress to further education, or directly to employment or an apprenticeship in the construction sector.

There are seven mandatory units, which cover the following aspects of construction:

- construction principles
- construction design
- tendering and estimating
- health and safety in construction
- construction technology
- projects in construction
- surveying in construction.

The mandatory units will introduce your personal responsibilities for health, safety and welfare, the industry and legislative requirements for health and safety, and the application of organisational processes and risk management to ensure compliance. They will also introduce you to the skills needed for tendering and estimating within a project environment.

You will be able to choose six optional units focusing on your areas of preferred specialism. These units will offer you the opportunity to gain specialist skills and knowledge, which you will need to work as a technician in the construction sector or to progress to higher education.

While taking this qualification, you will be required to engage with sector employers as part of your course. This could include work experience with an employer in the sector, where you will be given opportunities to develop practical skills in preparation for employment.

What could this qualification lead to?

Will the qualification lead to employment, if so, in which job role and at what level?

This qualification will prepare you for direct employment in the construction and built environment sector, and is ideal if you wish to enter a particular specialist area of work, such as:

- construction contracting technician
- design technician

- architectural technician
- quality controller
- site quality controller
- building control/planning technician
- quantity surveying technician.

The optional units give you the chance to learn about a particular aspect of construction in more detail, but because the mandatory content makes up two thirds of the qualification, you will be prepared for all these roles, whichever optional units you choose.

Will the qualification lead to further learning?

There are many roles in this sector where recruitment is at graduate level. The qualification carries UCAS points and is recognised by higher education providers as meeting admission requirements to many relevant courses, for example:

- BSc (Hons) in Construction Management
- BSc (Hons) in Property Management (Building Surveying)
- BSc (Hons) in Architecture
- BSc (Hons) in Civil Engineering
- HNC/D in Civil Engineering
- HNC/D in Building Services Engineering
- HND in Construction and the Built Environment.

You should always check the entry requirements for degree programmes at specific higher education providers.

Why choose this size of qualification?

If there are larger and/or smaller versions of this qualification, or it is available at different skills levels, why should you take this particular one?

The **Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Extended Diploma in Construction and the Built Environment** is equivalent in size to 3 A Levels. It typically makes up the full two-year 16–19 study programme and allows you to focus your study on this sector with a view to progression to the workplace as a technician, or to higher education.

The suite also includes the following qualifications:

The **Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Construction and the Built Environment**, which is equivalent in size to one A Level. It is ideal for you if you are interested in learning about the sector alongside other fields of study, with a view to progressing to an apprenticeship or other formal work-based learning. When taken alongside other relevant qualifications, such as a Pearson BTEC Level 3 National in Art and Design, it could prepare you for progression to other areas of construction, such as architecture, or to a wide range of higher education courses.

The **Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Foundation Diploma in Construction and the Built Environment**, which is equivalent in size to 1.5 A Levels. As a one-year programme, it is ideal for you if you are interested in learning about the sector alongside other fields of study, with a view to progressing to a more specialist area of construction, such as Building Services or Civil Engineering. You can progress to the Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Extended Diploma in Construction and the Built Environment in the second year.

The **Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Diploma in Construction and the Built Environment**, which is equivalent in size to 2 A Levels. It typically makes up two-thirds of a 16–19 study programme. This size of qualification is ideal if you are currently working within the sector, or studying an NVQ or an A Level, such as maths, alongside.

For more detail about the other qualifications listed here, and the different progression opportunities they particularly support, please refer to their statements of purpose.

Who supports this qualification?

Professional or trade bodies

CIBSE – Chartered Institution of Building Services Engineers

CIOB – Chartered Institute of Building

Employer

Fusion (a joint venture of Morgan Sindall, BAM Nuttall and Ferrovial Agroman)

Troup Bywaters + Anders

Further and Higher Education

Kingston University

Leeds Beckett University

University of Huddersfield