Purpose Statement

Name of regulated qualification	
QAN: 603/0862/X	Title: Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Construction and the Built Environment (360 GLH)

Overview

The construction sector

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.

Who is this qualification for?

The **Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Construction and the Built Environment** is intended as a Tech Level qualification, equivalent in size to one A Level and, as such, is designed to meet the Tech Bacc measure, if you study it alongside level 3 mathematics and the Extended Project Qualification (EPQ). Outside the Tech Bacc, it will be a two-year programme when studied alongside further level 3 qualifications. As well as direct entry to employment, this qualification is ideal for post-16 students wanting to gain the core skills and knowledge required to progress to an apprenticeship or to a work-based training programme in the construction sector.

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.

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

- construction principles
- construction design
- health and safety in construction
- construction technology.

The unit content ensures that you can focus on the key learning required to introduce technician-level theoretical principles, and enables further vocational study at level 3 and beyond. It 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.

The maths, science and materials skills you learn will give you the fundamental knowledge needed to enable you to apply skills in a context used within the sector and to progress to further study.

While the qualification has a strong focus on theoretical principles, the content is focused on the practical applications of the principles underpinning construction design, structural requirements and technology as applied in today's industry. While taking this qualification, you will be required to engage with sector employers as part of your course.

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, either as an apprentice, or as part of other formal work-based learning. Job roles include:

- apprentice construction project technician
- apprentice mechanical/electrical services technician
- apprentice construction design technician.

Will the qualification lead to further learning?

If successful, you may use the knowledge in this qualification to embark on further study; for example, the Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Diploma in Construction and the Built Environment.

In addition to the construction sector-specific content outlined above, the requirements of the qualification mean that you will develop the transferable and higher-order skills that are

highly regarded by higher education and employers; for example, communication skills and team working.

The qualification carries UCAS points and is recognised by higher education providers as contributing to admission requirements to many construction courses When combined with other qualifications within a study programme, such as 2 A Levels or one A-level and another BTEC National Extended Certificate, you students can progress to other areas of construction, such as architecture, via the stepping stone of higher education.

Degree programmes that you could progress to include:

- BSc (Hons) in Construction Management, if taken in combination with subjects such as business and mathematics
- BSc (Hons) in Property Management (Building Surveying), if taken in combination with subjects such as science and mathematics
- BSc (Hons) in Architecture, if taken in combination with subjects such as science and art
- BSc (Hons) in Civil Engineering, if taken in combination with subjects such as science and mathematics
- HNC/D in Civil Engineering, if taken in combination with subjects such as science and mathematics
- HNC/D in Building Services Engineering, if taken in combination with subjects such mathematics and physics
- HND in Construction and the Built Environment, if taken in combination with subjects such as science and mathematics.

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 Certificate in Construction and the Built Environment** 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 suite also includes the following qualifications:

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 ideal if you are currently working within the sector, or studying an NVQ or an A Level, such as maths, alongside.

The **Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Extended Diploma in Construction and the Built Environment**, which 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.

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