



Pearson

## Purpose Statement

<b>Name of regulated qualification</b>	
<b>QAN: 603/0863/1</b>	<b>Title: Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Foundation Diploma in Construction and the Built Environment (540 GLH)</b>

<b>Overview</b>
<p><b>The construction sector</b></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><b>Who is this qualification for?</b></p> <p>The <b>Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Foundation Diploma in Construction and the Built Environment</b> is intended as a Tech Level qualification, equivalent in size to 1.5 A Levels 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 normally be the main qualification in a one-year study programme, and is particularly for those looking for a full-time course specialising in the construction sector, and who have a firm intention of progressing to employment in one of the wide variety of roles available.</p> <p>As well as direct entry to employment, this qualification will prepare you for higher study of a specialist degree, or a BTEC Higher National Certificate/Diploma. This route gives you the opportunity to enter the sector at a higher level, or in a more specialist role.</p> <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.</p>

## 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 essential knowledge, understanding and skills that will prepare you to work as a trainee, or for further study.

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

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

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.

You will be able to choose three optional units focusing on your areas of preferred specialism. These units have been designed to support your progression to a range of employment opportunities in the construction sector and will allow you a choice of covering principles across one or more of the following disciplines:

- construction and the built environment
- building services engineering
- civil engineering.

Additional technical optional units cover areas such as:

- graphical detailing in construction
- mechanical and electrical services
- measurement techniques
- building surveying in construction
- site engineering for construction
- low temperature hot water in building services.

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, and is ideal if you wish to enter a particular specialist area of work, such as:

- trainee site engineer
- trainee construction project technician
- trainee mechanical/electrical services technician
- trainee technician estimator/buyer/planner
- trainee construction design 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?**

You may use this qualification as a foundation for a further year of study to achieve a Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Extended Diploma in Construction and the Built Environment. The core units studied in this qualification can allow for progression to the second year of the Extended Diploma.

There are many roles in this sector where recruitment is at graduate level. You can study additional qualifications alongside this qualification, such as an AS Level and A 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, 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 as 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 Foundation Diploma in Construction and the Built Environment** 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 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 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.

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.

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