



Sustainability SKILLS

in partnership with

British Gas



Looking after your world

BTEC Entry 3 – Level 2 in Sustainability Skills

The sustainability sector is one of the fastest growing in the UK and there is a demand for fresh, innovative thinkers in the industry. Edexcel's BTEC in Sustainability Skills is designed to introduce learners to the various elements of sustainability. It helps prepare them for jobs not just in the sustainability sector, but teaches the importance of having knowledge and awareness of sustainability that can be passed on to others in the community.



BTEC Level 3 National in Environmental Sustainability

For first teaching from September 2011, the BTEC Level 3 National in Environmental Sustainability offers learners interested in sustainability clear pathways to progression into employment or into Higher, Specialist and Professional courses.



Why offer Sustainability Skills?



Why offer the BTEC in Sustainability Skills?

Learners make a practical contribution to developing sustainable schools and environments

This suite of qualifications is designed to help learners realise the positive contribution they can make as an individual to their environment. It covers eight sustainability-themed topics:

- **Food and drink**
- **Energy and water**
- **Travel and traffic**
- **Purchasing and waste**
- **Building and grounds**
- **Inclusions and participation**
- **Local well-being**
- **Global dimension**

Recognise achievement

Sustainability Skills is accredited on the QCF (Qualifications and Credit Framework), which means learners receive credits for the units they complete. They also attract SCAAT points.

Accredit teaching that already takes place

Many topics covered in the qualification are already being taught in PHSE and Citizenship lessons, so your delivery time may be reduced and learners can gain recognition for topics they are already learning.

With Sustainability Skills you can be imaginative!

There is just one mandatory unit – a three-credit project. It can be developed to suit the interests of you and your learners, from helping in the community and helping those less fortunate to looking at global issues. You can build in exciting project work, investigation and collaboration into the project, making it very hands-on for learners.

There are also a range of optional units so you can adapt the course. These cover topics such as 'Working as a Team' which provide learners skills that can be applied in the workplace in any industry.

Inspire passion in learners

Sustainability is a subject area many learners feel passionate about and this course gives them a sense of ownership of sustainability and the opportunity to develop practical skills. They also gain the knowledge, understanding and skills needed to pass on their knowledge and encourage an awareness of sustainability in others, helping to safeguard and promote a future for all through good citizenship.

**Sustainability
Skills E3 – L2**

How BTEC in Sustainability Skills works

How BTEC in Sustainability Skills works

BTEC Sustainability Skills comes in two sizes – Award and Certificate – and is available at Entry 3, Level 1 and Level 2.

Sustainability skills is accredited on the QCF (Qualifications and Credit Framework), which means learners receive credits for the units they complete, (6 credits for Award and 13 credits for Certificate).

You can register and enrol learners onto this course at any time of the year without incurring late fees. To find out more about becoming an approved centre or to register your learners onto the course, visit www.edexcelonline.com. Contact your Exams' Officer for your centre's login information.

Sustainability
Skills E3 – L2

BTEC Sustainability Skills Units

This qualification includes PSHE and Citizenship option units you may already be teaching, plus three brand new units at each level.

| Unit title | Credit | GLH* | Unit type |
|--|--------|------|-----------|
| Entry Level 3 Units | | | |
| Project in Sustainability - NEW | 3 | 30 | Mandatory |
| Healthy Living | 2 | 20 | Optional |
| Sustainable Buildings - NEW | 1 | 10 | Optional |
| Shopping and Waste Management - NEW | 1 | 10 | Optional |
| Developing Self | 2 | 20 | Optional |
| Manage Social Relationships | 2 | 20 | Optional |
| Working in a Team | 3 | 30 | Optional |
| Working Towards Goals | 2 | 20 | Optional |
| Dealing with Problems in Daily Life | 2 | 20 | Optional |
| Individual Rights and Responsibilities | 1 | 10 | Optional |
| Community Action | 2 | 20 | Optional |
| Level 1 Units | | | |
| Project in Sustainability - NEW | 3 | 30 | Mandatory |
| Healthy Living | 2 | 20 | Optional |
| Healthy Lifestyles | 1 | 10 | Optional |
| Sustainable Buildings - NEW | 1 | 10 | Optional |
| Purchasing and Waste Management - NEW | 1 | 10 | Optional |
| Understanding Personal Identity | 1 | 10 | Optional |
| Personal and Social Relationships | 1 | 10 | Optional |
| Exploring the Impact of Diversity in our Communities | 1 | 10 | Optional |
| Working in a Team | 3 | 30 | Optional |

| Unit title | Credit | GLH* | Unit type |
|---|--------|------|-----------|
| Working Towards Goals | 2 | 20 | Optional |
| Dealing with Problems in Daily Life | 2 | 20 | Optional |
| Individual Rights and Responsibilities | 1 | 10 | Optional |
| Community Action | 2 | 20 | Optional |
| Rights and Responsibilities of a Citizen in a Democracy | 1 | 10 | Optional |
| The Changing Nature of Society in the UK | 1 | 10 | Optional |
| The Role of the United Kingdom in Worldwide Organisations | 1 | 10 | Optional |
| Developing Personal Skills for Leadership | 2 | 20 | Optional |
| Practising Leadership Skills with Others | 2 | 20 | Optional |
| Level 2 Units | | | |
| Project in Sustainability - NEW | 3 | 24 | Mandatory |
| Healthy Lifestyles | 1 | 8 | Optional |
| Sustainable Buildings - NEW | 1 | 8 | Optional |
| Procurement and Waste Management - NEW | 1 | 8 | Optional |
| Understanding Personal Identity | 1 | 8 | Optional |
| Personal and Social Relationships | 1 | 8 | Optional |
| Exploring the Impact of Diversity in our Communities | 1 | 8 | Optional |
| Working in a Team | 3 | 30 | Optional |
| Learning from More Experienced People | 2 | 16 | Optional |
| Rights and Responsibilities of a Citizen in a Democracy | 1 | 8 | Optional |
| The Changing Nature of Society in the UK | 1 | 8 | Optional |
| Worldwide Citizenship | 1 | 8 | Optional |
| Developing Personal Skills for Leadership | 2 | 20 | Optional |
| Practising Leadership Skills with Others | 2 | 20 | Optional |

* GLH - Guided Learning Hours. The maximum expected time to complete which includes all directed study (eg. classroom, homework, preparation and activity work).



Teaching Resources

Specification

You can find out the full course details in the [specification](#).

Sample Assignments

Free sample assignments are available for all units, including the following brand new units in this course:

- **Project in Sustainability**
- **Sustainable Buildings**
- **Purchasing and Waste Management**

[View the full list of sample assignments.](#)

Online support

There is also a huge range of free support at www.edexcel.com/sustainability. Download the latest online newsletter which includes links to sustainability news stories, activities and events each half term.

[Download the latest newsletter.](#)

There are also a variety of links to other websites we've carefully selected because we think their content is useful and suitable for classroom use. [See all the useful links.](#)

You can keep up to date with developments and find out about new resources available for Sustainability Skills from the BTEC team by [signing up for our MySkills e-Newsletter service.](#)



Free Eco Savers Powermeter!

Edexcel are working with British Gas to provide free resources that help learners complete the 'Project' and 'Working in a Team' units. To coincide with this offer, we will send a free Powermeter to each centre who registers on the course. [Find out more.](#)

MySkills

Sustainability Skills is part of MySkills, a learning suite designed to equip learners with the essential life skills needed for adulthood, whatever their life choices.

MySkills: My life long learning journey.

Find out more at www.edexcel.com/myskills



Assessment and Approval

Method of Assessment

Learners compile a portfolio of evidence to demonstrate their competence. There are no formal written examinations. Portfolios are internally assessed and subject to our Online Standardisation for Centre Assessors (OSCA 2) process. There is no requirement for all staff teaching the course to be qualified assessors or internal verifiers, though one lead internal verifier is needed per centre.

Approval

If you are a BTEC approved centre you can log onto www.edexcelonline.com to get instant approval to offer BTEC Sustainability Skills.

If you're an Edexcel customer, but new to BTECs, log on to www.edexcelonline.com, select the BTEC tab and complete the online declaration of intent.

If you are not already an approved Edexcel centre call **0844 576 0026** to find out how to get approval.



Why offer Environmental Sustainability?



Why offer the BTEC Level 3 National in Environmental Sustainability?

Over the last couple of years, while unemployment has hit 2.5 million in the UK, 'green jobs' have continued to rise.* The previous Labour government committed themselves to creating 400,000 new jobs in the 'green sector' by 2020. The coalition government is yet to publish detailed plans, but they have shown their commitment to a sustainable agenda by setting up a ministerial steering group.

There is a skills gap in industry. Businesses need to meet sustainability targets to keep ahead in their sectors, and in order to do that they need people with skills and experience of sustainability.

The BTEC Level 3 National in Environmental Sustainability is an excellent choice for those wishing to gain those skills.

- **The assignment-based assessment opportunities provide an engaging link between theoretical topics and practical experience, giving learners the chance to solve problems in a similar way to in the workplace.**
- **Learners are given the opportunity to specialise depending on their interests and aims beyond the Level 3 course by choosing from a range of optional units.**
- **As in all BTEC National courses, learners are encouraged to work as a team, solve problems and carry out practical, work-related tasks, giving them the opportunity to gain vital skills required for employment in the sector.**

*ENDs Careers Survey, 2010





Progression Pathways

According to the ENDS Careers Survey, 2010, 9 out of 10 people employed in sustainability jobs are educated to degree level. Many also have specialist and professional qualifications. This BTEC Level 3 National course provides an excellent opportunity for those learners wishing to follow this route. There are a variety of pathways they can choose:

Units from this qualification can be used as ASL for Environment and Land Based, Engineering and Public Services Diplomas.

On completion learners receive UCAS points which can be used to gain entry to an undergraduate degree course such as Environmental Science.

Learners can progress onto a Higher National course, for example in Horticulture.

Learners could be in employment and study for this course part time to gain the qualifications required for the job they are in or working towards within a company.



How Environmental Sustainability works

How BTEC National in Environmental Sustainability works

This level 3 course is a vocational qualification that can be taken by itself, or alongside other academic or vocational qualifications.

It is available in four sizes

| Qualification | Credit | GLH* | Equivalence |
|--|--------|------|----------------|
| Certificate in Environmental Sustainability | 30 | 180 | 1 AS Level |
| Subsidiary Diploma in Environmental Sustainability | 60 | 360 | 1 GCE/A Level |
| Diploma in Environmental Sustainability | 120 | 720 | 2 GCE/A Levels |
| Extended Diploma in Environmental Sustainability | 180 | 1080 | 3 GCE/A Levels |

*Guided learning hours

BTEC Level 3 National in Environmental Sustainability is accredited on the QCF (Qualifications and Credit Framework), which means learners receive credits for the units they complete.

Learners are required to complete a number of mandatory units to complete the course. Additionally there are a range of optional units that can be chosen in order to specialise in specific areas.



BTEC Level 3 National in Environmental Sustainability Units

| Unit title | Credit |
|--|--------|
| Understanding the Principles of Sustainable Development | 10 |
| Sustainable Communities | 10 |
| Science for Environmental Technicians | 10 |
| Energy Management | 10 |
| Informatics for Environmental and Sustainability Industries | 5 |
| The Business Environment | 10 |
| Understanding the Principles of Wildlife Populations, Ecology and Conservation | 10 |
| Understanding Principles of Physical and Biological Environmental Processes | 10 |
| Undertake an Extended Investigative Project in the Environmental Sustainability Sector | 20 |
| Undertake an Investigative Project in the Environmental Sustainability Sector | 10 |
| Using Mathematical Tools in Science | 5 |
| Using Statistics in Science | 5 |
| Mathematical Calculations for Science | 5 |
| Waste Management | 10 |

| Unit title | Credit |
|--|--------|
| Work-related Experience in the Environmental Sustainability Sector | 10 |
| Understanding Water Quality | 10 |
| Pollution Control and Management | 10 |
| Practical Chemical Analysis | 10 |
| Sustainable Construction | 10 |
| Understanding Coastal Management | 10 |
| Sustainable Facilities Management | 10 |
| Scientific Practical Techniques | 10 |
| Urban Environment | 10 |
| Geology of Natural Resources | 10 |
| Principles of Plant and Soil Science | 10 |
| Sustainable Transport | 10 |
| Geospatial Technology and Sustainable Development | 5 |

* GLH - Guided Learning Hours. The maximum expected time to complete which includes all directed study (eg. classroom, homework, preparation and activity work).

Mandatory Units: To find out details about which units are mandatory for each qualification size, **see the specification**.





Teaching Resources

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Sample Assignments

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- **Unit 1**
- **Unit 2**
- **Unit 10**

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