

Everything you need to know about the BTECs in Uniformed Protective Services

Are you new to teaching the BTECs in Uniformed Protective Services? Or been teaching it for a while and would like an update on what resources are available to support your teaching? Read on for everything you need to know about delivering the UPS BTECs.

Why choose the BTECs in Uniformed Protective Services?

Up-to-date, engaging content

The UPS BTEC suite was developed with industry experts to make sure the content is up-to-date and engaging.

It was launched in 2020 and is the most up-to-date public services related post-16 level 3 qualification available in the market.

Recognised by universities and industry

BTECs are the most widely recognised level 3 vocational qualifications by UK universities. The UPS BTECs are recognised by universities as supporting progression into a variety of sector related degrees such as Policing, Law, Criminology and Public Services.

They are also recognised by the armed services, the fire service, the police service and the prison service as supporting learners who wish to progress into employment within the protective services.

UPS BTECs give learners the skills that they need to progress

Universities and employers alike agree that the UPS BTECs give learners the skills they are looking for:

- Ability to learn independently
- Ability to research actively and methodically
- Ability to give presentations
- Teamwork
- Communication
- Discipline

Comprehensive mandatory content and sector-focused optional units means the UPS BTECs are valued as robust qualifications

Universities and employers can have greater confidence in the baseline skills and knowledge that all learners with a UPS BTEC come to them equipped with compared to other public services qualifications in the market.

Unrivalled Support

Pearson's clear, supportive, risk-based quality assurance model ensures a smooth journey through the standards verification process.

Standards Verifiers

Your Standards Verifier (SV) will be a **UPS subject specialist**. Their role is to ensure accurate standards have been applied to the assessment of learner work.

They are also there to **support** you through the standards verification process.

Don't be afraid to ask for help!

Sampling!

Don't worry, you don't have to send absolutely everything to your SV! Your SV will contact you to tell you which units and learners (based on your assessment plan) they will sample that academic year.

They will suggest the date by which they will need to receive the sample from you – this will be **mutually agreed** between you and your SV.

Not sure where to start with writing your assignment briefs?

Don't panic! Every internally assessed unit has either an Authorised Assessment Brief (AAB) or an Example Assessment Brief (EAB) for you to use on our [website](#)!

The AABs and EABs also include suggested sources of information that learners may wish to use when completing the assessment.

In the specification, each unit has an **Essential information for assessment decisions** section, which provides guidance on what learners must do to meet the pass, merit and distinction criteria.

It's got exams! Help!

Yes, depending on which size BTEC you are delivering, learners will take 1 or 2 external assessments (exams). They are allowed to resit an exam to obtain a higher grade. We have lots of resources to help you and your learners perform well in these exams (see the list on the next page).

Why does it have exams?

Universities have told us that including exams in qualifications at level 3 better prepares learners for progression onto higher education. Holding a UPS BTEC will stand your learners in good stead if they want to go onto higher education.

Employers in the sector – the armed services, the fire service, the police service, the prison service – have unanimously agreed that including exams in level 3 qualifications is important to adequately prepare learners for future employment in the sector, as entry and promotion within the protective services is often dependent on passing some form of examination.



Did you know the externally assessed units are awarded using the Distinction (D), Merit (M) Pass (P) **and Near Pass (N)** grades? The Near Pass grade gives learners credit where their performance is worth more than an Unclassified result but is not yet at the Pass standard. Points achieved for the Near Pass grade can be used towards their overall qualification grade.

We have lots of resources to support your delivery of the examined units. Everything is available on our [website](#), here are some examples:

Past Papers After every exam series we publish the question paper and the mark scheme on our website.

Use the past papers so learners can familiarise themselves with the layout of the paper and can see the types of questions they will get asked.

Use the mark scheme so learners can see how marks are awarded e.g. what they need to do to get 2 marks for an 'explain' question v 1 mark for a 'state' question.

Use our free exam preparation tool examWizard to create your own mock exams, topic tests, homework or revision activities.

Principal Examiner Reports After every exam series, the principal examiner for each of the examined units writes a report, which is published on our website.

The report is designed to help you understand how learners performed overall in the exam.

For each question there is a brief analysis of learner responses, with examples of responses that achieved low marks, and responses that achieved high marks.

The reports also include exam technique tips to guide learners how to score the most marks for each type of question.

Learner Resources Unit 2: Glossary of Terms – this provides an explanation of all the terms and theories learners will need to know, as well as worked examples describing the differences between theories.

Unit 6: Learner Resource – learners can use this workbook to familiarise themselves with the content for unit 6.

Unit 6: Exam Preparation Guide – a useful revision tool for learners to help them prepare for the exam.

What other qualifications are available in the Protective Services suite?

We have a range of [qualifications](#) from Level 2 to Level 5:

Level 2

- BTEC First in Public Services
 - Award
 - Certificate
 - Extended Certificate
- BTEC in Preparation for Public Services
 - Certificate
 - Diploma
- BTEC in Teamwork and Personal Development in the Community
 - Certificate
 - Extended Certificate
 - Diploma
- BTEC in Fire and Rescue Services in the Community
 - Award
 - Certificate

Level 4/5

- **New for 2025!**
- BTEC Level 4 Higher National Certificate in Public Services
- BTEC Level 5 Higher National Diploma in Public Services



If you have any questions about delivering the UPS BTECs contact our dedicated specialist team on teachingpublicservices@pearson.com