

Pearson Edexcel Level 2 NVQ Diploma in Beauty Therapy (General) (QCF)

Qualification Number: 500/8995/X

What is the purpose of this qualification?

The Level 2 NVQ Diploma in Beauty Therapy (General) provides the foundation level for a junior beauty therapist in the beauty sector. This qualification requires learners to work in a commercial beauty salon, whereby assessments must be carried out on real paying clients in line with commercial service times. Achievement of this qualification **confirms occupational competence**.

The qualification can be taken on its own or within the Intermediate Apprenticeship Framework in Beauty Therapy. This qualification combines knowledge and competence, to confirm occupational competence.

Although this qualification is part of the Intermediate Apprenticeships in Beauty Therapy, some learners may need or wish to take the qualification on its own, for example, learners who work on a part-time basis and not eligible for Apprenticeship Funding.

The Level 2 NVQ in Beauty Therapy (General) is one of five qualifications that Pearson offers at Level 2; the others are the following:

Edexcel Level 2 NVQ Diploma in Beauty Therapy (Make-up) (QCF) 500/8996/1

Edexcel Level 2 NVQ Diploma in Nail Services (QCF) 500/8997/3

Edexcel **BTEC** Level 2 Extended Certificate in Beauty Therapy Services (QCF) 500/9850/0

Edexcel **BTEC** Level 2 Diploma in Beauty Therapy (QCF) 500/9545/6

What is the difference between an NVQ in Beauty Therapy and a BTEC First in Beauty Therapy/ Beauty Therapy Services?

The BTEC Extended Certificate in Beauty Therapy Services is intended for learners aged 14 and above. It is also eligible as part of the beauty therapy Young Apprenticeship framework.

The BTEC Diploma in Beauty Therapy is intended for learners aged 16 and above. This qualification offers a great deal of flexibility, with a wide range of optional units, enabling learners to develop their knowledge and understanding of anatomy and physiology, specialise in nail art, or develop their business skills.

BTEC Firsts are designed to provide much of the underpinning knowledge and understanding for the National Occupational Standards (NOS), as well as developing practical skills in preparation for work and further training in Beauty Therapy and possible achievement of NVQs in Beauty Therapy in due course which will confirm occupational competence.

BTEC Firsts **do not purport to deliver occupational competence** in the sector, which should be demonstrated in a work context. The BTEC First qualifications are delivered in a realistic learning environment; this means that treatments do not need to be carried out on paying clients or within commercial timescales.

The Level 2 NVQ Diploma in Beauty Therapy (General) requires learners to work in a commercial beauty salon on real clients in line with commercial service times.

What does this qualification cover?

The Pearson Edexcel Level 2 NVQ Diploma in Beauty Therapy (General) (QCF) is for learners seeking to work in and develop their skills in a **commercial setting** and can only be delivered by providers that have or have access to a 'real' salon and not a realistic working environment.

This qualification is based on the National Occupational Standards for the beauty industry as defined by Habia, the Sector Skills Council. The qualification is accredited on the Qualifications and Credit Framework.

The Pearson Edexcel Level 2 NVQ Diploma in Beauty Therapy (General) is a 54 credit qualification which consists of 8 mandatory units (45 credits) plus a minimum of 9 credits from optional units.

Mandatory subjects are the following;

- Ensure Responsibility for Actions to Reduce Risks to Health and Safety
- Promote Additional Services or Products to Customers
- Provide Facial Skin Care Treatment
- Provide Pedicure Services
- Enhance the Appearance of Eyebrows and Eyelashes
- Carry out Waxing Services
- Develop and Maintain Effectiveness at Work
- Provide Manicure Services

How is the qualification assessed?

Learners can be assessed via the following methods;

- direct observation of the learner's performance by their assessor (O)
- outcomes from oral or written questioning (Q&A)
- products of the learner's work (P)
- personal statements and/or reflective accounts (RA)
- outcomes from simulation, where permitted by the assessment
- strategy (S)
- professional discussion (PD)
- assignment, project/case studies (A)
- authentic statements/witness testimony (WT)
- expert witness testimony (EPW)
- evidence of Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL).

Who could take this qualification?

This qualification is for all learners aged 16 and above who are capable of reaching the required standards.

What could this qualification lead to?

Career opportunities as a junior beauty therapist exist in a variety of contexts, including:

- Commercial beauty salons
- Independent/self-employed/mobile/home-based settings
- Beauty retail concessions

Learners can progress to the Edexcel Level 3 NVQ Diploma in Beauty Therapy (General) or indeed other pathways such as, make -up, massage and spa therapy.

Alternatively, learners can progress to more **vocationally** related programmes such as the Pearson BTEC Level 3 Subsidiary Diploma in Beauty Therapy Techniques 501/0110/9, Pearson BTEC Level 3 Diploma in Beauty Therapy 501/0256/4

Who supports this qualification?

This qualification has been recognised by National Hairdressing Federation as being fit for purpose and appropriate for employees in the sector.