

# Grade Boundaries

November 2020

**External Assessments for BTEC  
Level 3 Nationals**

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## Understanding external assessment grade boundaries for BTEC Level 3 Nationals

This document shows the grade boundaries for our BTEC externally assessed assessments. For each set of grade boundaries the maximum number of available marks and the size of the unit in Guided Learning Hours (GLH) is also shown.

### Definition of terms

All of the grade boundaries for our BTEC externally assessed units are given in 'raw' marks. A raw mark is the actual mark awarded by our examiners for an assessment. Raw mark scores can be downloaded by Exams Officers from Edexcel Online.

A grade boundary is the minimum mark at which a grade can be achieved. For example, if the grade boundary for a Distinction is 29, then 29 is the minimum mark at which a Distinction can be achieved. A mark of 28 would therefore be a Merit.

In order to calculate the overall qualification grade, unit results are combined by converting unit grades into points scores.

You can find out more about raw marks and points scores at:

[qualifications.pearson.com/understandingmarksandgrades](https://qualifications.pearson.com/understandingmarksandgrades)

### Converting marks to points

Unit results for BTEC Level 3 National qualifications are reported on a 5 point grade scale: Distinction (D), Merit (M), Pass (P), Near Pass (N) and Unclassified (U). Raw marks from the external units are converted into points based on performance in the assessment. The points scores available for each external unit at grade boundaries are as follows:

	Unit Size	
	90 GLH	120 GLH
Unclassified	0	0
Near Pass	6	8
Pass	9	12
Merit	15	20
Distinction	24	32

Points are awarded on a sliding scale between the grade boundaries based on the number of raw marks achieved by each learner. For more information on calculating qualification results please see section 9 of your BTEC Nationals specification.

### Children’s Play, Learning and Development (2016)

BTEC Level 3 Nationals in CPLD - Non EYE		GLH	Max Mark	D	M	P	N	U
31597H	Unit 1: Children's Development	120	90	61	47	33	19	0
31598H	Unit 2: Development of Children's Communication, Literacy and Numeracy Skills	120	68	50	36	22	11	0

### Children’s Play, Learning and Development (2016)

BTEC Level 3 Nationals in CPLD - EYE		GLH	Max Mark	D	M	P	N	U
31597X	Unit 1: Children's Development	120	90	61	47	33	0	0
31598X	Unit 2: Development of Children's Communication, Literacy and Numeracy Skills	120	68	50	36	22	0	0

