



Grade Boundaries

January 2023

External Assessments for BTEC Level 3 Nationals

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

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.

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BTEC Level 3 Nationals in Aerospace and Aviation Engineering	GLH	Max Mark	D	M	P	N	U
31706X - Unit 1: Engineering Principles	120	80	58	37	17		0

BTEC Level 3 Nationals in Agriculture	GLH	Max Mark	D	M	P	N	U
20065K - Unit 1: Professional Working Responsibilities	120	60	41	28	16	8	0
20066K - Unit 2: Plant and Soil Science	120	80	55	38	21	10	0
21321L - Unit 3 Contemporary Issues in the Land-based Sectors	120	64	49	35	21	10	0

BTEC Level 3 Nationals in Animal Management	GLH	Max Mark	D	M	P	N	U
31644H - Unit 1: Animal Breeding and Genetics	120	80	53	37	22	11	0
31645H - Unit 2: Animal Biology	120	80	52	38	24	12	0
31646H - Unit 3: Animal Welfare and Ethics	120	60	42	31	21	11	0

BTEC Level 3 Nationals in Applied Human Biology	GLH	Max Mark	D	M	P	N	U
21325L - Unit 1: Principles of Applied Human Biology	90	80	49	34	20	10	0
21327L - Unit 3: Human Biology and Health Issues	120	60	43	32	22	12	0

BTEC Level 3 Nationals in Applied Law	GLH	Max Mark	D	M	P	N	U
20168K - Unit 1: Dispute Solving in Civil Law	90	60	38	27	16	8	0
20170K - Unit 3: Applying the Law	120	72	56	42	28	14	0

BTEC Level 3 Nationals in Applied Psychology	GLH	Max Mark	D	M	P	N	U
21331L - Unit 1: Psychological Approaches and Applications	90	72	42	31	21	11	0
21333L - Unit 3: Health Psychology	120	70	46	36	27	18	0

BTEC Level 3 Nationals in Applied Science	GLH	Max Mark	D	M	P	N	U
31617HB - Unit 1: Principles and Applications of Science I_Biology	90	90	59	41	23	11	0
31617HC - Unit 1: Principles and Applications of Science I_Chemistry	90	90	59	41	23	11	0
31617HP - Unit 1: Principles and Applications of Science I_Physics	90	90	59	41	23	11	0
31619H - Unit 3: Science Investigation Skills	120	60	38	26	15	7	0
31627HB - Unit 5: Principles and Applications of Science II_Biology	120	120	75	54	34	17	0
31627HC - Unit 5: Principles and Applications of Science II_Chemistry	120	120	75	54	34	17	0
31627HP - Unit 5: Principles and Applications of Science II_Physics	120	120	75	54	34	17	0
31629H - Unit 7: Contemporary Issues in Science	120	50	35	25	16	8	0

BTEC Level 3 Nationals in Art and Design	GLH	Max Mark	D	M	P	N	U
31828H - Unit 2: Critical and Contextual Studies in Art and Design	90	60	41	28	16	8	0
31832H - Unit 6: Managing A Client Brief	120	60	37	25	14	7	0

BTEC Level 3 Nationals in Business	GLH	Max Mark	D	M	P	N	U
31463H - Unit 3: Personal and Business Finance	120	80	48	35	22	11	0
31489H - Unit 2: Developing A Marketing Campaign	90	70	54	39	25	12	0
31588H - Unit 6: Principles of Management	120	88	65	49	33	17	0
31589H - Unit 7: Business Decision Making	120	70	54	39	24	12	0
51101N - Unit 2: Developing A Marketing Campaign (W)	90	70	54	39	25	12	0
51102N - Unit 3: Personal and Business Finance (W)	120	80	48	35	22	11	0

BTEC Level 3 Nationals in Computing	GLH	Max Mark	D	M	P	N	U
31768H - Unit 1: Principles of Computer Science	120	90	44	30	16	8	0
31769H - Unit 2: Fundamentals of Computer Systems	90	80	46	33	20	10	0
31770H - Unit 3: Planning and Management of Computing Projects	120	66	46	33	21	10	0
31771H - Unit 4: Software Design and Development Project	120	68	47	32	18	9	0

BTEC Level 3 Nationals in Construction and the Built Environment	GLH	Max Mark	D	M	P	N	U
20075K - Unit 1: Construction Principles	120	75	48	35	22	11	0

BTEC Level 3 Nationals in Countryside	GLH	Max Mark	D	M	P	N	U
20065K - Unit 1: Professional Working Responsibilities	120	60	41	28	16	8	0
20066K - Unit 2: Plant and Soil Science	120	80	55	38	21	10	0
21321L - Unit 3 Contemporary Issues in the Land-based Sectors	120	64	49	35	21	10	0

BTEC Level 3 Nationals in CPLD - Non EYE	GLH	Max Mark	D	M	P	N	U
31597H - Unit 1: Children's Development	120	90	60	46	33	20	0
31598H - Unit 2: Development of Children's Communication, Literacy And Numeracy Skills	120	68	51	36	22	11	0
31599H - Unit 4: Enquiries into Current Research in Early Years Practice	120	65	45	31	17	8	0

BTEC Level 3 Nationals in CPLD - EYE	GLH	Max Mark	D	M	P	N	U
31597X - Unit 1: Children's Development	120	90	60	46	33		0
31598X - Unit 2: Development of Children's Communication, Literacy And Numeracy Skills	120	68	51	36	22		0
31599H - Unit 4: Enquiries into Current Research in Early Years Practice	120	65	45	31	17	8	0

BTEC Level 3 Nationals in Creative Digital Media Production	GLH	Max Mark	D	M	P	N	U
31668H - Unit 1: Media Representations	90	80	45	31	17	8	0
31672H - Unit 5: Specialist Subject Investigation	120	65	44	31	18	9	0
31674H - Unit 8: Responding to A Commission	120	72	41	29	18	9	0

BTEC Level 3 Nationals in Engineering	GLH	Max Mark	D	M	P	N	U
31706H - Unit 1: Engineering Principles	120	80	58	37	17	8	0
31708H - Unit 3: Engineering Product Design and Manufacture	120	60	39	28	18	9	0
31725H - Unit 6: Microcontroller Systems for Engineers	120	80	54	36	18	9	0

BTEC Level 3 Nationals in Enterprise and Entrepreneurship	GLH	Max Mark	D	M	P	N	U
31463H - Unit 3: Personal and Business Finance	120	80	48	35	22	11	0
31489H - Unit 2: Developing A Marketing Campaign	90	70	54	39	25	12	0
31588H - Unit 12: Principles of Management	120	88	65	49	33	17	0
31589H - Unit 6: Business Decision Making	120	70	54	39	24	12	0
51101N - Unit 2: Developing A Marketing Campaign (W)	90	70	54	39	25	12	0
51102N - Unit 3: Personal And Business Finance (W)	120	80	48	35	22	11	0

BTEC Level 3 Nationals in Equine Management	GLH	Max Mark	D	M	P	N	U
20108K - Unit 1: Equine Structure, Form and Function	120	80	52	36	20	10	0
20109K - Unit 2: Equine Diet and Nutrition	120	60	41	31	22	13	0
20110K - Unit 3: Managing Equine Disease	120	66	44	34	24	14	0

BTEC Level 3 Nationals in Forensic and Criminal Investigation	GLH	Max Mark	D	M	P	N	U
20149K - Unit 5: Applications of Criminology	120	60	35	24	14	7	0
20151K - Unit 7: Applications of Criminal and Forensic Psychology	120	60	36	26	17	8	0
31617HB - Unit 1: Principles and Applications of Science I_Biology	90	90	59	41	23	11	0
31617HC - Unit 1: Principles and Applications of Science I_Chemistry	90	90	59	41	23	11	0
31617HP - Unit 1: Principles and Applications of Science I_Physics	90	90	59	41	23	11	0
31619H - Unit 3: Science Investigation Skills	120	60	38	26	15	7	0

BTEC Level 3 Nationals in Health and Social Care	GLH	Max Mark	D	M	P	N	U
31490H - Unit 1: Human Lifespan Development	90	90	59	44	29	14	0
31491H - Unit 2: Working in Health And Social Care	120	78	48	35	23	11	0
31493H - Unit 3: Anatomy and Physiology for Health and Social Care	120	90	49	34	19	9	0
31494H - Unit 4: Enquiries into Current Research in Health and Social Care	120	65	45	31	18	9	0

BTEC Level 3 Nationals in Horticulture	GLH	Max Mark	D	M	P	N	U
20065K - Unit 1: Professional Working Responsibilities	120	60	41	28	16	8	0
20066K - Unit 2: Plant and Soil Science	120	80	55	38	21	10	0

BTEC Level 3 Nationals in IT	GLH	Max Mark	D	M	P	N	U
20158K - Unit 11: Cyber Security and Incident Management	120	80	58	42	26	13	0
20161K - Unit 14: IT Service Delivery	120	68	40	29	18	9	0
31760H - Unit 1: Information Technology Systems	120	90	48	34	21	10	0
31761H - Unit 2: Creating Systems to Manage Information	90	66	38	26	14	7	0

BTEC Level 3 Nationals in Marketing	GLH	Max Mark	D	M	P	N	U
50234N - Unit 2: Marketing Principles	120	70	51	40	29	18	0

BTEC Level 3 Nationals in Music Performance	GLH	Max Mark	D	M	P	N	U
20177K - Unit 2: Professional Practice in the Music Industry	90	70	54	38	22	11	0

BTEC Level 3 Nationals in Music Technology	GLH	Max Mark	D	M	P	N	U
31811H - Unit 5: Music Technology In Context	120	65	46	32	19	9	0

BTEC Level 3 Nationals in Performing Arts	GLH	Max Mark	D	M	P	N	U
31555H - Unit 1: Investigating Practitioners' Work	90	60	37	26	16	8	0
31561H - Unit 7: Employment Opportunities in the Performing Arts	120	60	42	31	20	10	0

BTEC Level 3 Nationals in Sport	GLH	Max Mark	D	M	P	N	U
21405J - Unit 22: Investigating Business in Sport and Active Leisure Industry	90	64	42	30	19	9	0
31524H - Unit 1: Anatomy and Physiology	120	80	54	36	19	9	0
31525H - Unit 2: Fitness Training and Programming for Health, Sport and Well-Being	120	60	47	35	23	11	0
31542H - Unit 19: Development and Provision of Sport and Physical Activity	120	60	48	35	22	11	0

BTEC Level 3 Nationals in Sport and Exercise Science	GLH	Max Mark	D	M	P	N	U
31813H - Unit 1: Sport and Exercise Physiology	120	70	42	32	22	12	0
31814H - Unit 2: Functional Anatomy	90	60	44	32	20	10	0
31815H - Unit 3: Applied Sport and Exercise Psychology	120	60	45	33	21	10	0
31824H - Unit 13: Nutrition for Sport and Exercise Performance	120	50	42	33	24	15	0

BTEC Level 3 Nationals in Travel and Tourism	GLH	Max Mark	D	M	P	N	U
20207K - Unit 1: The World of Travel and Tourism	90	75	44	34	24	14	0
20208K - Unit 2: Global Destinations	120	60	42	32	23	14	0
51103N - Unit 1: The World of Travel and Tourism (W)	90	75	44	34	24	14	0
51104N - Unit 2: Global Destinations (W)	120	60	42	32	23	14	0

BTEC Level 3 Nationals in Uniformed Protective Services	GLH	Max Mark	D	M	P	N	U
40888M - Unit 2: Behaviour and Discipline in the Uniformed Protective Services	120	80	46	37	29	21	0
40892M - Unit 6: Government and the Protective Services	90	70	45	36	28	20	0
51105N - Unit 2: Behaviour and Discipline in the Uniformed Protective Services (W)	120	80	46	37	29	21	0
51106N - Unit 6: Government and the Protective Services (W)	90	70	45	36	28	20	0

