



BTEC

*in the
independent
sector*



Pearson
BTEC

BTECs offer schools and students *choice and opportunity*

BTEC qualifications give independent schools the opportunity to offer students a unique and bespoke education. Our qualifications allow schools to meet the needs of individual students and provide them with practical, hands-on experience while maintaining essential subject theory. BTECs can be taken alongside, or in place of, GCSEs and A Levels – providing a truly tailored set of subjects for each student.

BTEC students are tested throughout the course using a variety of assessment types based on real-life scenarios. This practical approach allows BTEC learners to develop the knowledge, skills and behaviours to succeed in their chosen pathway to university, apprenticeships and into their careers.



recognise
BTEC

A recent study by the Independent Schools Council (ISC) shows that the number of BTECs taken at ISC schools has more than doubled in the last four years.

ISC Press Release 24th August 2019
*Year 13 exam results reveal ongoing uptake of alternative qualifications

We offer BTEC qualifications across 16 sectors:
Applied Science • Construction • ICT • Performing Arts
Art & Design • Engineering • Media • Public Services
Business & Enterprise • Health & Social Care • Music • Sport
Childcare • Hospitality • Land-Based • Travel & Tourism



BTEC gives students a *tailored learning* experience that works for them

As more independent schools embrace BTECs, their learners are able to enjoy a new pathway through which they can explore subjects they are passionate about. Schools offering BTECs can broaden and differentiate their curriculum and offer students new and exciting learning opportunities that tap into their individual interests.

“ We have sent students that were on a solely BTEC programme to universities such as York, Manchester, Liverpool and Cardiff. ”

Jason Henham, Head of Sixth Form
at Bede's Senior School.

Whether your students have a passion for studio-level creative media and film production, hospitality or even learning the day-to-day running and management of a farm - BTEC provides tailored and unique experiences that help learners to progress.

The breadth and depth of BTEC subjects on offer means that schools can create programmes of study to give their learners the opportunity to access the courses best suited to them.

Classroom-based work can be supported by incorporating practical lessons such as

- hospitality students devising menus and catering for prestigious events
- recitals for Music learners
- on site mini-farms for Countryside Management learners
- field trips and more

Hear more from schools

We have worked with a number of independent schools to showcase how BTEC qualifications can have a positive impact on schools and students by giving them access to an education that suits their needs and aspirations.



Offering BTECs gives students choice to *realise their potential*

Situated in a small village near Eastbourne, East Sussex, Bede's Senior School is a coeducational independent school that offers a wide range of BTEC qualifications to assist them in their goal to "enrich young people in a holistic way".

At **Bede's Senior School** their mission is to treat each of their 750 pupils as individuals, every one encouraged to try as many things as they can and explore the world of opportunities available to them. The school is innovative in their approach to learning and student progression. BTEC plays a big part in that, with a wealth of qualifications taught across various sectors.

Preparing students for the future

The school understands that offering a broad and balanced curriculum can help students progress and achieve their goals. "One of the things we particularly like about BTEC is that we think it fits modern work habits a lot better," says Julia French, Director of Fifth Form. "We are big fans of the continued assessment in terms of preparing them for working habits in the future and future courses, or employment."

"We have sent students that were on a solely BTEC programme to universities such as York, Manchester, Liverpool and Cardiff." said Jason Henham, Head of Sixth Form.



Offering choices

BTEC has been offered at Bede's since 2007, beginning with a BTEC Level 3 National in Sport.

"It then sort of erupted after that," enthused Peter Goodyer, Headmaster. Since the early days of this small but effective list the school have added Animal Management, Dance and Music Performance to their curriculum.

One aspect of BTEC that appeals to Peter is how the coursework-based structure suits students whose learning style benefits from ongoing assessment, rather than a final exam at the end of the course.

Georgina Wainwright, Head of BTEC, is a huge advocate of vocational education, "getting the right course gives [students] the best opportunity to get the best possible grade. We encourage them to choose courses that they will definitely benefit from when they leave".

“ You get a much richer experience. It prepares you for university later in life. ”

BTEC Business Student

Providing a unique experience for each student

The teaching staff and senior leadership team work hard to ensure their curriculum offers an array of high-quality qualifications, both academic and vocational, with an ethos focussing on openness and experimentation.

Peter Goodyer sums up the student experience at Bede's, "BTECs are seen in the exact same way as A Levels when it comes to university. I think it works really well for those children who enjoy the applied nature of the subjects. They get really stuck into the ideas that exist within BTEC to apply their knowledge into real situations."

Students find that BTEC provides them with the skills they need to help them progress to University. One business student felt that BTEC helped with "time management, organisation and understanding deadlines".

Retaining and recruiting sixth form students

The number of pupils in the Sixth Form at Milton Abbey recently grew by one third, with the vast majority of these new pupils joining the school to take a BTEC Level 3 National qualification, either as part of their over all KS5 portfolio, or as a full-time course.

Milton Abbey is a deliberately small school, offering an exceptionally wide ranging BTEC course selection in the independent sector. The school specialises in creating a programme of study that is tailored to each student's skills and aspirations, helping them to achieve the best possible outcomes for their future. They offer BTECs at both KS4 and KS5 delivering a broad curriculum which allows students to choose a subject and a learning style that develops their interests, and supports their future ambitions.

Students often progress to university from Milton Abbey, studying a wide variety of degrees, such as Film, Photography and Media at Leeds University and Countryside Management at the Harper Adams. They find that students who have taken a BTEC and are going on to technical or applied courses at university are a step ahead in terms of practical skills and knowledge. In 2018 for instance, other leavers went on to study Computer Games Design degrees at Staffordshire University, a growth industry in the UK.

“ We’re finding that the pupils who take BTEC courses are arriving at university more prepared to deal with their degree. ”

Josh Bradbury, Head of Sixth Form at Milton Abbey

Student Spotlight

Jenna studied a BTEC First Award in Countryside and Environment and a BTEC National Extended Diploma in Countryside Management.

“I come from a family of farmers, and I knew I wanted to go into the countryside management industry too. To help with this, I studied a BTEC First in Countryside and Environment alongside my GCSEs. I really enjoyed the practical, nature of the course, and because of this I also achieved a much better grade than in my GCSEs, so I chose to take a BTEC National Extended Diploma in Countryside Management instead of A levels.

The BTEC has massively improved my confidence and self-belief, as well as helping me develop leadership skills for my future.

My BTEC grades were much better than my GCSEs, and I really enjoyed the practical hands-on nature of the course.”

“ We place a high priority on employability. Our BTEC courses ensure our graduates are ready for the worlds of work and higher education, prepared to take on whatever challenges lie ahead. ”

Judith Fremont-Barnes, Head



Discovering students' untapped potential

Helping students to achieve beyond expectations, by offering them a different, applied style of learning with BTEC qualifications.

Dover College is an independent school committed to 'thinking differently' and achieving exceptional results. They have a value added score of 0.9, meaning that pupils achieve considerably better results than they were predicted to on entry. Offering BTEC qualifications has helped the school support their students to discover untapped potential.

With the traditional curriculum, some pupils were uncomfortable with the formal examination system. By introducing BTECs at Level 3, alongside their existing A level programme, Dover College was able to support these pupils with a different, applied style of learning and assessment, and they're now achieving beyond previous expectations.

When the Level 3 BTEC National in Sport was introduced, UCAS points per pupil increased by 152%, with an average of 109 more UCAS points per pupil. This continued the following year after introducing the BTEC National in Business, which saw a further increase of 78 points, bringing the school to a total average of 398 UCAS points per pupil. The percentage of students achieving A* to C or Distinction* to Merit grades also increased from 74% to 87%.

Many pupils in the Sixth Form want to progress onto university degrees, from Sport and Exercise Science at Exeter University, to Music Management at West London University, and Law at Chester University.



Student Spotlight

Seth studied a BTEC National Extended Diploma in Sport during Sixth Form at Dover College, the equivalent of three A levels, alongside an A level in Product Design. He achieved a triple Distinction* and has now progressed to a degree in Sport and Exercise Science at Exeter University, which is ranked in the top 20 universities in the UK.

Since starting university in September 2017, Seth has found that his BTEC qualification has been a great foundation for the content covered in the course, especially the Anatomy and Kinanthropometry units. He's also been able to pick up the different learning style easily, having successfully developed independent learning and research skills during his BTEC.

“ I would have been far less successful if I'd have taken the A level route – it simply doesn't suit my style of learning. I thoroughly recommend using BTEC as a route to university. ”

BTEC helps students progress to university and a career

We know schools support their students every step of the way to be able to reach their goals, whatever pathway they choose. For students wishing to progress to university, BTECs qualify for UCAS points towards university application in the same way as A Levels and AS Levels, and can be taken as a standalone full-time programme, or alongside A levels.

BTECs open new doors to many different, rewarding career paths. The qualifications are structured to prepare students for their future careers by placing great value on independent learning, problem-solving and communication – all skills a BTEC-qualified learner can demonstrate.



“BTEC played a fantastic role in setting me up well for university but also in securing my first job”

Tunji Akintokun MBE, Director and Head of Sales at PwC

Want to find out more about BTEC?

Has hearing about these schools made you think BTEC could be right for your learners? If you would like to find out more about delivering BTEC in your school then visit our website:

quals.pearson.com/BTECindependents



Pearson Education Ltd is committed to reducing its impact on the environment by using responsibly sourced and recycled paper.



If you no longer wish to receive this information, please opt out here pearson.com/uk/dmoptout