

# Quick Guide to the **BTEC Tech Award in Art & Design Practice (2022)**



## REDEVELOPED FOR 2022

For first teaching in September 2022, this qualification has been redeveloped to meet the new DfE technical requirements, particularly regarding the assessment of Tech Awards. The content is very similar to the previous qualification, with only a few changes made to increase clarity and enhance delivery, so teachers of the current specification will find it easy to transition.

**Course level:** Level 1 / Level 2

**Course size:** Total Qualification Time: 150 hours / Total Guided Learning Hours: 120

**QN:** 603/7056/7

# Content Overview

## Component 1: Creative Practice in Art and Design

Learners will investigate art and design practice to inform the generation and communication of ideas and will develop practical skills through exploration of specialist materials, techniques and processes.

## Component 2: Responding to a Brief

Learners will develop and produce art and design work in response to a creative brief.

*Note that for the 2022 specification, we have combined the two internally assessed components from the 2017 specification into one. This is based on teacher feedback and the popularity of the combined assessment option in the previous specification. It reflects the holistic nature of assessment in art and design through projects which allow synoptic use of any content in any way as relevant to the learner and their area of practical focus.*



## Why choose a BTEC Tech Award in Art and Design?

This qualification is for learners interested in taking a hands-on course alongside their GCSEs that will develop their creative skills and offer them an insight into what it is like to work in the art and design sector. This course offers a practical introduction to an exciting sector that transects multiple industries such as fashion, games, advertising, graphics and publishing, craft and product design, interior design and architecture.

This award enables learners to develop skills across a range of art and design practices using a combination of practical exploration, experimentation and realistic vocational contexts. They will develop personal skills, such as managing creative projects, documenting progress of skills and work, responding to briefs and presenting work through a practical and skills-based approach to learning and assessment.

Optional content is built into the components, allowing teachers and learners choice over which practical techniques they would like to cover or specialise in – including 3D and product design, digital and graphics (including photography), fashion and textiles, drawing and mark-making – without the need for additional assessments to cover optional units. The specification also allows a flexible approach to delivering and applying practices that span different areas such as photography as a focus or as part of graphics, fashion and/or mark-making. Technical skills-related content within each area is indicative, not prescriptive.

All assessment is practical and project-driven making it relevant to the sector and building learners' skills and portfolio of work. Assessments are designed to be engaging, open and flexible, stimulating creative ideas without restricting types or direction of learner response.

This Tech Award complements the learning in GCSE programmes such as the GCSE in Design and Technology, through developing and applying art and design practice skills to commercial products. This enables learners to apply knowledge and skills in a practical way through project work, such as developing ideas and creating art and design outcomes for specific audiences. Successful completion of this course opens up progression to A Levels or the study of a vocational qualification at Level 3, such as a BTEC National in Art and Design.

100% practical with  
no written exams!

## Assessment Overview

Component	GLH	Qualification Weighting	Marks available	Type of assessment	Length of Assessment	Availability
Component 1: Creative Practice in Art & Design	72	60%	84	Internal assessment (PSA*) with 4 tasks. Externally moderated	20 hours of supervised sessions	September release for assessment in May/June (from 2023)
Component 2: Responding to a Brief	48	40%	60	External synoptic task. Externally marked	20 hours of supervised sessions	January release for assessment in May/June (from 2024)

\* Pearson Set Assignments (PSAs) are set by Pearson, marked by the centre, and moderated by Pearson.

*The components are interrelated and best seen as part of an integrated whole rather than as distinct study areas.*

## Complimentary resources and support

- Delivery Guide
- Transition Guide including mapping from previous qualifications
- Sample assessment materials
- Marking Training and Marking Standardisation Events
- Getting Started Training Events
- Access to Pearson subject specialists

# Choosing a **BTEC Tech Award**

Tech Awards are Level 1/Level 2 courses that are of the **same size and rigour as GCSEs**, **widening learners' options at Key Stage 4**, while keeping all their options open for progression into post-16 education and training. We have developed all our Tech Awards **in consultation with subject specialists and secondary school and FE representatives**, to ensure that they are **engaging** and **fully up to date** with current sector skills, behaviours and knowledge.

## With a Tech Award your learners will:

- Get a taste of what a sector is like.
- Gain transferable skills and confidence that will help them in the world today and prepare them for their futures.
- Receive an introduction to vocational study.
- Have opportunities to apply learning from their GCSE subjects to every day and work contexts.
- Build applied knowledge and skills that show an aptitude for further learning, both in the sector and more widely.

BTEC Tech Awards come from Pearson, the world's leading learning company. Our mission is to help everyone achieve their potential through learning. We do that by providing high quality content and learning experiences, as well as assessments and qualifications that help people build their skills and grow with the world around them.

## Embedding learning through application

Our Tech Award qualifications are designed to help learners:

- **Explore** what it's like to work in the sector and gain the underpinning knowledge and skills required to work in it.
- **Develop** key knowledge, skills and behaviours, and learn about essential tools, techniques, and equipment.
- **Apply** their learning to real-life contexts and vocational scenarios in both learning and assessment.

## Designed to **make life easier**

Through the design of all of our qualifications we've sought to ensure that the courses are as easy as possible for teachers to deliver and administer, and that they give learners as much opportunity as possible to realistically demonstrate their capability and achieve overall success.

- ✓ We offer the widest range of Tech Awards, covering 13 unique subject areas, all following the same consistent approach – enabling your school to offer multiple Tech Awards without multiplying complexity.
- ✓ All components are mandatory, with optionality built in within the content where relevant to the sector, streamlining assessment.
- ✓ There is a consistent mark scheme structure for the internally assessed component making it easier to apply and standardise.
- ✓ Assessment is compensatory within components and across the qualification - anywhere learners gain marks, these are added to the total towards a grade. This means grades for each component are no longer restricted to the lowest grade achieved within the component.
- ✓ There are no minimum grade requirements in any component, so an Unclassified result in any of the components will not prevent a learner from achieving the qualification. This gives your learners more opportunities to achieve and better captures their true ability.
- ✓ The moderation process for the new Pearson Set Assignments (internal assessments) will create a significant reduction in administration and paperwork – and includes moderator feedback so that you have the opportunity to address any issues with assessment before they impact on the learner's results.
- ✓ The new Pearson Set Assignments have been based on Authorised Assignment Briefs from current qualifications, so will be familiar to teachers used to the previous qualifications.