

# Engaging **inspiring** **and real**

 **BTEC**

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A school's guide to BTEC qualifications



# We believe in learning

At the core of everything we do is the desire to make a measurable impact on improving people's lives through learning. Pearson aspires to be the world's leading learning company. From primary to secondary school, through to professional certification; our qualifications, curriculum materials, multimedia learning tools and testing programmes help to educate millions of people worldwide.



# Real skills for the real world

BTEC qualifications are designed to continually build upon a student's knowledge, promoting critical thinking, problem solving and decision-making. Our practical learning approach focuses on developing minds and helps to show how theory works in real life.

With a wide range of subjects and learning outcomes that cover both theoretical knowledge and practical skills, BTECs are made to fit easily alongside your school's existing programmes, and can be taken with, or in place of, academic qualifications.

Around the world, students take BTECs together with their own main national study programmes or with our Edexcel academic qualifications, such as GCSEs, A levels and International Advanced Levels.

**"My observation is that the students really love the course. They are a real relief for some of the students who are highly talented and engaged young people for whom the traditional exam pathways available aren't always quite right. It's a really empowering, exciting experience."**

Graham Silverthorne, Principal,  
South Island School,  
Hong Kong



# Real-life learning

The structure of BTEC qualifications is designed to adapt to the needs of students and to meet the requirements of employers.

Our BTECs have four key features, created to make them easy to deliver.



Each qualification is made up of core units, which provide a broad introduction to the sector, and help students gain the essential knowledge of the subject area, and specialist units, which build expertise in specific areas relevant to students' needs.

This course structure means that every BTEC student gains both a deep understanding of specialist sector knowledge and the freedom to tailor their studies around their areas of interest.

# Giving students options



**"Parents like to know that their children will be successful and will have opportunities. We can convince them that the BTEC programme can offer them that."**

Ed Wickins, Principle, King George V School, Hong Kong

# For a flexible future

## BTEC Level 1

Suitable for students aged 14+ who are interested in a work related course, BTEC Level 1 qualifications are designed to provide a broad introduction to a vocational sector. They provide excellent preparation for BTEC Level 2 and form a solid foundation for further vocational and academic study.

## BTEC Level 2

These qualifications are designed for 14 – 16 year olds who wish to explore a work-related vocational qualification or specific industry area. They can be offered alongside national qualifications or academic programmes to offer students a blended learning solution tailored to their needs and aspirations.

BTEC students can go on to further study at Level 3, such as BTEC Level 3 qualifications, Edexcel GCE A levels and International Advanced Levels. Alternatively they can continue with their main national study programme.

## Provide a wider choice of sectors and course sizes

We are now offering six new sectors to our international centres and learners, for first teaching from October 2015 in sectors including; Performing Arts, Health & Social Care, Beauty Therapy, Construction and the Built Environment, Creative Media Production and Travel & Tourism.

## BTEC Level 3

Aimed at students aged 16 – 18 years old, BTEC Level 3 are specialist qualifications that give students the knowledge, understanding and skills that they need to enter higher education or employment. They are ideal for those who have a clear view of their future career.

Valued by employers around the world, BTEC Level 3 programmes enable seamless progression into employment, usually as part of a career development programme (i.e. apprenticeship).

## Continue to deliver our BTEC Level 3 National (2010) qualifications

We regularly review all our qualifications to ensure they continue to meet the needs of learners in helping them progress to the next stage of their lives, whether into further education or employment. In 2014, we began a review of our BTEC Level 3 National (2010) qualifications, in light of new UK government recommendations for vocational qualifications.

As a result of our consultation with educators and key stakeholders, we are pleased to announce an extension to the last registration date for our existing BTEC Level 3 Nationals (2010) qualifications to 31 December 2017, allowing student registrations until the end of December 2017 with a last certification date of 31 December 2020. This means that you can continue to register learners onto these qualifications with confidence up until 31 December 2017. BTEC Level 3 Nationals (2010) will also continue to attract UCAS points and provide a clear progression pathway to Higher Education.



95% of UK Higher Education Institutes



over **200 universities worldwide** - including many of *The Times* top 100 ranked universities internationally



over **70 professional bodies** - including the Chartered Management Institute (CMI), Management, Accounting and Engineering Institutions



**international employers** such as Shell, BAE Systems, PWC and Mandarin Oriental Hotel Group

**...all actively recruit BTEC graduates.**

# Teaching in ways your students will love

These qualifications are designed to not only equip students with solid knowledge of their chosen sector area, but also to have real world skills which they can utilise at the next level of study or in the workplace. Therefore teaching methods vary by topic. While theoretical sections of a course might follow a traditional classroom model, learning outcomes which might require students to have mastered practical skills would demand a teaching style focused on developing and applying those skills.

## A modular approach to learning

The BTEC learning experience is just as flexible as the qualification itself, with a modular format that helps students learn at their own pace.

BTECs provide ongoing assessment in the form of centre-devised assignments. Assessments need to cover the learning outcomes listed in the qualification specification, but can take any form appropriate to the topic.

## Recognising student success

BTECs are graded as a Pass, Merit or Distinction, allowing your best and brightest students to gain the recognition their hard work and talent deserves.

Students are assessed throughout the BTEC qualification meaning that they pick up new skills and certificates at every stage, which can be very motivational.

## The right resources for delivery

BTECs are designed to prepare students for further study and employment.

Centres will need to meet any specialist resource requirements when they seek qualification approval. Guidance can be found in each programme specification.



**"I find that the average BTEC student is an independent learner, they find it easy to adapt to university life and have a more mature outlook. Because BTEC courses are aimed directly at industry they also have a clearer understanding of how their study relates to jobs."**

Mark Wallman, Course Leader and Senior Lecturer for Visual Effects, University of Hertfordshire, UK

# Support for everyone

We understand that delivering BTEC qualifications takes time and careful planning and our fully supported training and resources make teaching these qualifications as rewarding as studying them.

## Your subject support

### Teaching and published resources

We provide an extensive selection of published materials along with our innovative range of digital teaching and preparation tools.

### Assignment Checking Service

Get an expert review on two proposed assignments, per level, per subject, at the start of the teaching period (available for BTEC Level 3).

### 'Ask the Expert'

Access our interactive, online portal to find answers to common questions, or to ask your own specific question.

### Subject Advisors

Always just a phone call away, our Subject Advisors are available to you, whatever your needs.

**"We also see BTECs as a great way to build our external links: we've had guest speakers from local businesses come in and give talks to our business students, as well as a local artist running a stencilling workshop to our art students."**

Maqun Wu, Principle of Beijing Information technology College, China

## Training solutions

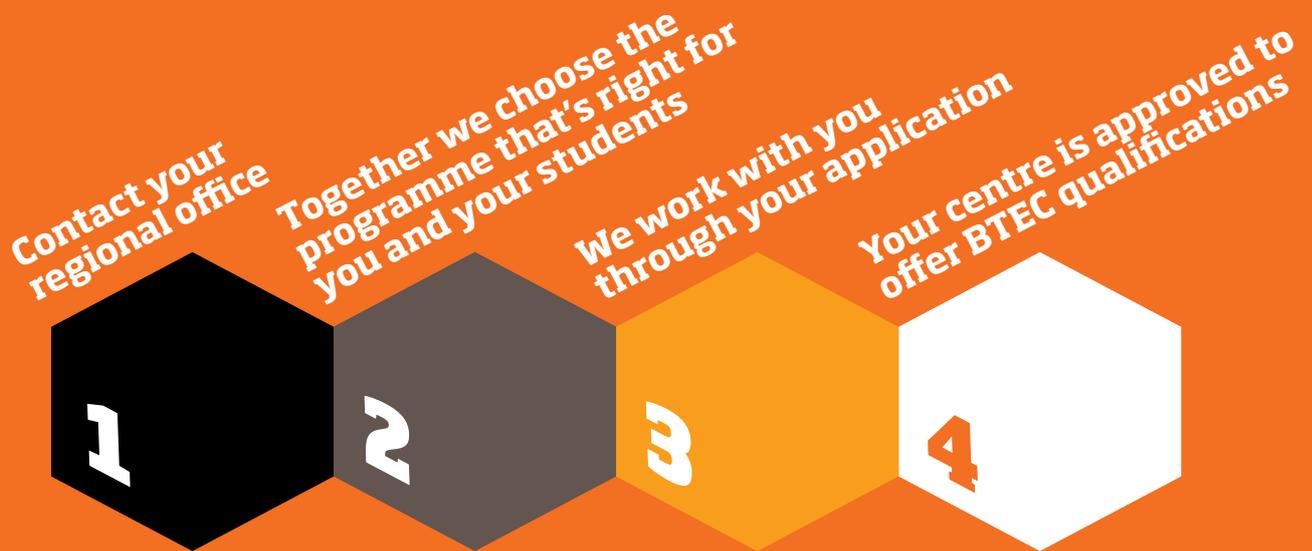
Choose from a range of practical, hands-on events designed to help those actually delivering the qualifications. For centres with very specific needs, we can also design bespoke programmes.

## Progression support

### Progression Plus

Students can learn about the global study opportunities open to them once they have gained their BTEC qualification by using our online Degree Course Finder tool: [degreecoursefinder.pearson.com](https://degreecoursefinder.pearson.com)

# Teach BTEC



Set your educational institution apart with qualifications that engage and inspire students, while building their confidence to achieve their ambitions.

Learn more at [qualifications.pearson.com/btec](https://qualifications.pearson.com/btec)