



PARK HIGH SCHOOL

Applied Science

Exam Board: Edexcel/Pearson

Course Specification: [601/7434/1](#)

Qualification obtained: BTEC Level 3 National Certificate in Applied Science

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Subject Overview

The Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Certificate in Applied Science is equivalent in size to one A Level. Apart from applied science sector specific content, the requirements of the qualification mean students develop the transferable and higher order skills that are highly regarded by both HE and employers. For example, carrying out practical laboratory tasks, planning investigations, collecting, analysing and presenting data, and reviewing and refining the methodology of practical and laboratory-based work. You will also develop other transferable skills such as:

- Working as part of team – this is used extensively in science since many heads are better than one. Larger tasks can be split into smaller tasks, mirroring the way you would work in industry.
- Problem solving - you will be set several assignments that require you to analyse the question, find out what you need to do and who you need to consult in order to solve the problem.
- Research skills – you will be expected to research a wide variety of sources including the internet, books and scientific journal articles.
- Organisational skills – a key part of BTEC studies is meeting deadlines and organising your work – as would be expected when working in the sector. IT skills – It is crucial that you are able to use IT skills to complete and organise your work. You will be supported and helped throughout your course to develop these skills.

Assessment percentage Exam: 50%

Assessment percentage Coursework: 50%

Progression Routes:

There is a wide range of opportunities including degree courses, apprenticeships, and careers that this qualification would enable students to access.

Subject requirements:

- Grade 4 -4-4 in Separate Science OR Grade 4-4 in Combined Science
- Grade 4 in English Language
- Grade 4 in English Literature
- Grade 4 in Mathematics

Complementary learning:

- English
- Maths

Student Quotes:

"I am studying a course that gives me the same UCAS points as an A level but also gives me a chance to develop all the skills employers are looking for."

"I really enjoy applied science as it gives me an insight into a variety of different topics which will allow me to get one step closer to my ideal job."

Year 12

The Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Certificate in Applied Science is split into two units which are taught over the course Year 12 & 13.

Topics covered:

Unit 1: Principles and Applications of Science.

- This unit covers some of the key science concepts in biology, chemistry and physics.

Unit 2: Practical Scientific Procedures and Techniques

- Learners will be introduced to quantitative laboratory techniques, calibration, chromatography, calorimetry and laboratory safety, which are relevant to the chemical and life science industries.
- Science Investigation Skills

Year 13

The Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Certificate in Applied Science is Split into two Units which are taught over the course Year 12 & 13.

Topics covered:

Unit 2: Practical Scientific Procedures and Techniques

- Learners will be introduced to quantitative laboratory techniques, calibration, chromatography, calorimetry and laboratory safety, which are relevant to the chemical and life science industries.
- Science Investigation Skills

Assessment

Is 50% Exam and 50% Coursework.

Unit Code	Unit Title	Assessment Details	Weighting
1	Principles and Applications of Science	Written Examination: 90 marks, 2hrs	50%
2	Practical Scientific Procedures and Techniques	Non-Exam assessment: Internal assessment of students' work produced in relation to 4 Assignment Briefs	50%

Additional information

Course specific equipment:

A Lab coat is required for all practical lessons. (This can be bought locally from Workwear World Ltd., 441-445 Honeypot lane, Stanmore. Approx. cost £16.)

Essential Reading Material:

BTEC National Applied Science Student Book 1

9781292134093

Recommended resources:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news> [Science and Health tabs]

<https://www.thestudentroom.co.uk>

Enrichment:

Related Work Experience placement