



The BTEC Level 3 Extended Certificate in Applied Science is a two year course equivalent to one advanced level subject. It is designed to provide a specialised work related qualification which covers all of the areas of Science; Chemistry, Biology and Physics. The course is delivered in an applied context through the completion of specially designed assignments so you will learn the science through real life industrial contexts. The course involves a large practical element and you will be expected to carry out mini-research type project work individually or as part of a small team.

You will develop your research skills, study skills and you will have the opportunity to visit a number of universities and workplaces to gain an insight into progression routes and future careers.

Level: Level 3

College entry to include GCSE Science minimum Grade CC or BTEC equivalent and GCSE Mathematics C

What will I study?

This course is practically based with most sessions involving laboratory work or computer based research making use of state of the art laboratory facilities, new computer suites and college produced learning resources.

You will complete four units over the two years of your course. Two of these units are internally assessed assignment based units marked by your teacher with the remaining two units being externally assessed by the examination board. The course is designed so that you complete one examined unit and one assignment based unit each year.

Over the two years you will study the following units:

Principles and Applications of Science – This is an examined unit. You will complete a one and a half hour examination which tests all of the theory. You will take this examination when all of the theory has been completed and you have had time to practice examination questions. You will study animal and plant cells; tissues; atomic structure and bonding; chemical and physical properties of substances related to their uses; waves and their application in communications.

Practical Scientific Procedures and Techniques

– This unit introduces you to standard laboratory equipment and techniques, including titration, calorimetry, chromatography, calibration procedures and laboratory safety. You are assessed by a task set by the examination board but marked by your teacher.

Science Investigation Skills - In this unit you will learn about the stages involved and the skills required to plan a scientific investigation: how to record, interpret, draw scientific conclusions and evaluate. This unit will be assessed through a written task worth 60 marks. The task is set and marked by the examination board.

Optional Unit – A further unit chosen from Physiology of Human Body Systems, Human Regulation and Reproduction, Biological Molecules and Metabolic Pathways, Genetics and Genetic Engineering or Diseases and Infections will be chosen. This unit is assessed by your teacher through the completion of assignments.

How will I be assessed?

There is one examined and one assignment based unit per year.

Where will the course lead me?

The course can lead to careers in nursing, teaching, occupational therapy, veterinary nursing, radiotherapy or laboratory work. When combined with other subjects it can also lead into further studies in geography, environmental sciences, sports and exercise science or design and technology.

What support will I receive?

With each unit there will be a variety of assignments and homework for you to complete. You will study the theory in your lessons and complete practical activities and investigations to support the theory covered. Deadlines are given well in advance so that you can manage your work effectively. When work is submitted, it will be marked by your teacher and you will be given feedback and help on how to improve your work and develop your scientific skills.

You will be able to access the college computer network and use the new computer suites outside of lesson time to complete your assignments and laptop computers can be used in class for completing research assignments. Revision sessions will be offered to prepare you for the examined component of the course.

What is the department like?

A friendly department that has an open door policy so that you can drop in to ask for help and advice with assignments.

Enrichment Opportunities

Society for Biology challenge.

Head of Department

Victoria Brown

Tutors

Carla Jackson
Kate Lancaster
Susan Spencer





St John Rigby College

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