Exam board / website: Edexcel BTEC Level 3 Extended Diploma in Applied Science (Medical Science):

http://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/btec-nationals/applied-science-2010.html



Hillcrest Sixth Form



BTEC Level 3 Medical Science





What does studying Applied Science involve?

The purpose of this course is to help people become occupationally ready to take up employment in the Applied Science sector at the appropriate level. This can follow either directly after achieving the qualification or via the stepping stone of Higher Education (HE) in university or college.

What skills will you develop?

By studying a BTEC Level 3 National, learners develop the knowledge, understanding and skills required by the sector, including essential employability skills, and apply them in real work contexts. BTEC level 3 Diploma in Applied Science is primarily an Applied General Qualifications, equivalent in size to two A levels which has been designed to occupy two thirds of a full time curriculum enabling learners to develop a significant common core knowledge including fundamentals of Science, Scientific practical techniques, working in the Science industry, Scientific investigations and using mathematical tools in Science- and providing extensive opportunity to study in more depth a range of option areas of choices such as Information in Science, Biochemistry techniques and Industrial chemical reactions.

What subjects compliment BTEC Nationals Applied Science?

This qualification allows time in the curriculum to study other qualifications in the curriculum to study other qualifications alongside it, such as A levels, e.g psychology, or another BTEC Level 3, e.g sport, health and social care, or IT. It is flexible qualification, made up of a number of units that can be taken independently or alongside more traditional qualifications to suit the interests and the aspirations of the learner.

Where will the subject take me?

The BTEC Level 3 in Applied Science provides a well- established route into a variety of specialist Higher Education (HE) courses when taken alongside other qualifications appropriate for the desired course of study. UCAS has reviewed the qualification to assess its value for access to Higher education, and has allocated UCAS points.

Entry requirements

Students are required to have a minimum of 4 GCSEs at grade C/5 or above including Science, Additional Science, Mathematics or English Language. Alternatively learners should have passed BTEC Level 2 in Science and GCSE passes in English Language and Mathematics at grade 6 or above.

Course content

The course covers a wide range of science topics blended together with a mix of theoretical and practical topics to allow the learners to experience the full breadth of the world of science, helping them to identify areas of interest and future specialisms:

- Biology including physiology of the human body, and biomedical techniques
- Physics Electrical circuits and electronics
- Chemistry Applications and techniques of chemistry, chemistry for technicians
- General Science Working in the science industry, Perceptions of science, Science fundamentals and scientific practical techniques
- Mathematics Mathematical and Statistical tools for science

Assessment and Equivalency of BTEC National

There are no external exams as it is course-work based, which means that you have a very clear understanding of your progress throughout the course, to help you plan and achieve your next steps. Taught by subject specialists, with laboratory experience, you will learn by completing laboratory-based practical assignments, supported self-study assignments, presentations and discussions that are based on real workplace situations, activities and demands.

Suggested reading material:

Ben Goldacre – Bad Science, Bill Bryson – A Short History of Nearly Everything, Philip Ball – The Elements: A Very Short Introduction, Richard Dawkins – The Selfish Gene

Contact: Learning Manger for Medical Science: Mr J Brown (jbrown@hillcrest.bham.sch.uk)