

FORENSIC AND CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION

QUALIFICATION: BTEC LEVEL 3 DIPLOMA (2 A LEVELS)

This qualification is designed to be the substantive part of a 16-19 study programme for learners who want a strong core of sector study. The qualification may be complemented with other BTEC Nationals or A Levels to support progression to higher education courses in forensics and criminology. The additional qualification(s) studied allows learners either to give breadth to their study by choosing a contrasting subject, or to give their studies more focus by choosing a complementary subject.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS:

Two (combined science) or three (triple science) at grade 4-9 at GCSE.

HOW COURSE IS ASSESSED:

A total of 8 units will be studied
Units 1, 3, and 5 are externally marked by Pearson and the remaining units are coursework based.

WHERE NEXT?

The qualification prepares learners for a range of higher education courses including Forensic Science, Forensic Investigation, Forensic Biology, Forensic Science with Criminology and Biology. It provides progression either by meeting entry requirements in their own right or by being accepted alongside other qualifications at the same level and adding value to them.

JOB OPPORTUNITIES:

This qualification will help you find employment as a technician in areas such as pharmacies, hospital laboratories, environmental science laboratories and college laboratories.

COURSE CONTENT:

Unit 1 (externally assessed) - Principles and Applications of Science 1:

This Unit covers key Science concepts in Biology, Chemistry and Physics.

Unit 2 (Coursework) - 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.

Unit 3 (Controlled Investigation) - Science Investigation Skills:

A task set and marked by Pearson and completed under supervised conditions. Learners will cover the stages involved and the skills needed in planning a scientific investigation: how to record, interpret, draw scientific conclusions and evaluate.

Unit 4 Forensic Investigation Procedures in Practice

A coursework based unit in which Learners develop techniques in collecting, analysing and reporting chemical, physical and biological evidence during forensic investigations.

Unit 5 Applications of Criminology

This is an externally assessed unit, the contents of which are to be confirmed.

Unit 6 Criminal Investigation Procedures in Practice

This is a coursework based unit which will involve looking into the criminal justice system and courtroom procedures.

The final 2 units are coursework based and are selected from a list provided by EDEXCEL. They continue with the forensic investigation theme.