

Applied Science



Introduction

This is a brand new two year course equivalent to one A Level

Year 1: BTEC Level 3 Certificate in Applied Science (equivalent to 0.5 A Levels)

There are 2 mandatory units:

- Unit 1: Principles and Application of Science I (written exam, externally marked)
- Unit 2: Practical Scientific Procedures and Techniques (assignment, internally marked)

Year 2: BTEC Level 3 Extended Certificate (equivalent to 1.0 A-level)

There are three mandatory units and one optional unit:

- Unit 1: Principles and Application of Science I (written exam, externally marked)
- Unit 2: Practical Scientific Procedures and Techniques (assignment, internally marked)

-Unit 3: Science Investigation Skills (task, externally assessed)

-Optional Unit: (assignment, internally marked)

Optional units may be taken from a range of units such as: Physiology of Human Body Systems; Biological Molecules and Metabolic Pathways; Microbiology and Microbiological Techniques; Applications of Inorganic Chemistry; Practical Chemical Analysis

Teaching styles

A very wide range of teaching styles are used on the course. There is a big emphasis on practical work. As you will need to see the work of scientists and technicians, a number of visits to medical and industrial labs are planned. The course will give you the opportunity to develop a wide range of skills so that you can present your work.

Resources and facilities

At the beginning of 2011 all the science labs were completely refurbished. As well as a full range of science equipment the new labs incorporate ICT facilities including computers, iPads and interactive whiteboards.

Subject combinations

The course would combine well with other vocationally-related courses or with other academic courses.

Provisional entry requirements

1. As part of a level 3 programme, a minimum of five GCSEs, or equivalent, at grade A* C or 4 – 9, including English Language and Maths.

2. In addition you should have either

- grade C in Core Science and Additional Science (or Applied Science) OR
- Pass in BTEC Level 2 Certificate in Applied Science (Merit recommended)

Assessment

There are a mixture of types of assessment in the courses. Unit 1 will be assessed by written examinations in June.

Building on your GCSE knowledge, this will assess your knowledge and understanding of some of the fundamental principles of the biology, chemistry and physics of the course.

Unit 3 consists of a Task set by the exam board. This will assess your ability to plan, record, process, analyse and evaluate scientific findings,

using primary and secondary information/data. You will make use of results from a practical investigation that you carry out before the assessment. This will be completed in May/June.

Unit 2, and the optional units will be assessed by Assignments that are set and marked by staff at the college.

Progression

This course will equip students for employment in a variety of scientific settings at technician level. Many work sectors will require you to have higher level qualifications and the course is also a good preparation for moving into higher education in many science courses including Biomedical Science, physiotherapy, clinical sciences, paramedics.

This would not be the course of choice for some of the more competitive courses (Medicine, Pharmacy and some of the top science courses).