

Re: changes to the BTEC L3 Applied Science from Sept 2016

Dear students,

There are some important changes to the Specification/ Qualification for this year which you need to be aware of as it may affect your decision to start the course. The New Qualification Framework (NQF) L3 National Extended Certificate is the equivalent of 1 A level in terms of teaching/ class time and UCAS points and it will continue to be taught over two years. However, the structure of the course is very different.

In year 12 we will study Units 1 and 2 (both compulsory) – unit 1 is an **externally assessed exam** covering “Principles of Science” in Biology, Chemistry and Physics which will be sat Summer 2019 at the end of year 12. Unit 2 is **internally assessed coursework** concerning “Policies, Practices and Procedures” in science.

In year 13 we will study optional unit 8 which is **internally assessed coursework** on “Physiology of Human Body Systems”. We will also complete unit 3 which is a compulsory unit involving a practical and written assessment (**externally assessed exam**) on “Scientific Practical Techniques”.

Overall, the externally assessed units (**exams**) **count for 58%** of the final grade with the remaining 42% coming from the internally assessed coursework. If you would like more information do visit the Pearson/ EDEXCEL website for details <http://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/btec-nationals/applied-science-2016.html> .

Kind Regards,

Ms J Birchnall

(Head of Applied Learning in Science)