

➤ Introduction

This course provides a practical, real-world approach to science and is ideal for students who are interested in developing scientific knowledge and skills relevant to careers in applied science industries. It is equivalent to two A Levels.

➤ What will I learn?

You will study a range of topics across Biology, Chemistry and Physics. Core units include:

Unit 1: Principles & Applications of Science (external assessment) – Periodicity and Properties of Elements (Chemistry), Structure and Function of Cells and Tissues (Biology), and Waves in Communication (Physics)

Unit 2: Practical Scientific Procedures & Techniques – You will undertake a non-exam assessment coursework on:

1. titration and colorimetry to determine the concentration of solutions
2. calorimetry to study cooling curves
3. chromatographic techniques to identify components of mixtures
4. review of personal development of scientific skills for laboratory work

Unit 3: Science Investigation Skills (external assessment) – Planning and undertaking scientific investigations, Enzymes in action, Diffusion of molecules, Plants and their environment, Energy content of fuels, and Electrical circuits.

Unit 4: Laboratory Techniques and their Applications (practical-based coursework)

Unit 5: Principles & Applications of Science (external assessment) – Properties and Uses of Substances (Chemistry), Organs and systems (Biology) and Thermal Physics, materials and fluids (Physics).

Unit 6: Investigative Project (practical-based research coursework)

Unit 8: Physiology of Human Body Systems (practical-based coursework)

Unit 17: Microbiology and Microbiological Techniques (coursework)

➤ How will I be assessed?

Assessment is through a combination of externally assessed units 1, 3 and 5, and internally assessed coursework for units 2, 4, 6 and 17.

Approximately 45% of the course is externally assessed and 55% of the coursework is internally assessed coursework (assignments, practical work and reports).

Units are assessed using a grading scale of Distinction (D), Merit (M), Pass (P), Near Pass (N) and Unclassified (U). The grade of Near Pass is used for externally-assessed units only.

Key Points

- Equivalent to 2 A Levels.
- Mix of coursework and exams.
- Focus on practical and theoretical skills.
- Recognised by universities and employers.

➤ Opportunities

One of the unique opportunities of this course is the strong focus on practical, lab-based learning and its application to real-world scientific scenarios. The course provides excellent preparation for science-related apprenticeships and university study.

➤ Other subjects?

This course complements other subjects such as Mathematics, IT or Computing, Health and Social Care and Physical Education, depending on student's future goals and interests.

➤ Future Careers

The BTEC Level 3 National Diploma in Applied Science can lead to university degrees in biomedical science, environmental science or health-related courses. It also prepares students for higher apprenticeships or employment in laboratory-based roles, healthcare, pharmaceuticals or science technician positions

➤ Course Information

Course Code - 601/7436/5

Examination Board - Pearson Edexcel