# BTEC LEVEL 3 NATIONAL EXTENDED **CERTIFICATE IN** APPLIED PSYCHOLOGY

The BTEC National in Applied Psychology is ideal for students who thrive in an engaging and hands-on learning environment. The course teaches students about the applications of psychological approaches whilst also exploring how to conduct psychological research. It is perfect for students aiming for a career in either health or sport which is why we have paired them together in our T6 pathways. During the two years, there is a lot of opportunity for discussion and thinking critically, and the course is taught in a dynamic and interesting way. We guarantee that the course will give you a solid foundation in psychology to prepare you for your next steps into Higher Education or your career.

#### **COURSE CONTENT**

#### Year 12 & Year 13 Content

Unit 1: Psychological Approaches and Applications

Unit 2: Conducting Psychological Research

Unit 3: Health Psychology

Unit 4: Criminal and Forensic Psychology

Unit 5: Promoting Children's Psychological Development

Unit 6: Introduction to Psychopathology

Unit 7: Applied Sport Psychology

#### **Sport focus:**

- Key psychological theories underpinning performance in sport
- How psychological theories can be applied to sporting situations
- Psychological interventions to meet sports performance needs

#### **Health focus:**

- Effectiveness or improvement of practice and provision
- Health trends
- Strategies for supporting ill health and mental functioning
- Establishing causes and cures for disease, behaviours, and advancement in treatments and medication

### **ASSESSMENT**

Units 1-3 are mandatory. Both units are externally assessed through a series of short and long-answer questions, worth 72 and 70 marks respectively.

Unit 2 is also mandatory, it is a synoptic internally assessed unit. This unit allows learners to prepare and carry out a piece of practical research based on their knowledge of research methodology, as well as its relationship to policy and practice, reviewing its success, or limitations, after completion of the task.

Additional, optional units vary in their assessment process.

#### SUBJECT COMBINATIONS

Applied Psychology links perfectly with BTEC Health & Social Care and BTEC Sport, a combination that we offer through our T6 pathways. The subject also includes essay writing (English), undertaking and analysing research (Maths and Science), as well as understanding how the brain works (Biology). It also fits in very well with Sociology, Criminology, Law and Business.



## **ENTRY** REQUIREMENTS

At least 5 GCSEs at grade 4 and above including English. Maths and Science. A GCSE APS of at least 4.5 is preferred.

#### **PROGRESSION**

It is important to know that Applied Psychology is regarded as a science subject by a lot of universities so if you are needing a science subject for a particular course, Applied Psychology may fulfil this requirement. Students progress to study related subjects such as Sports, Health and Social Science which is well supported by our T6 pathways.

"I believe that these specifications will prepare students for study in higher education. They have the breadth and challenge of A Level, and like A Level Psychology will prepare students for a wide range of degree choices." Head of Psychology, Nottingham Trent University.

## **FUTURES**

Applied Psychology is suitable for many career paths including Psychology, Sports Psychology/ Science, Public Health, Nursing and Counselling. The T6 pathways offer this course alongside Sport or Health & Social Care as this combination creates a strong foundation for future employment.







