

# APPLIED SCIENCE, FORENSICS

## Level 3 Extended Diploma

Version 09/11

Subject Area	Qualification	Level	Awarding Body
Applied Science, Forensics	BTEC Extended Diploma	Level 3	Edexcel

### Course Summary

This is a work related programme of study that covers key knowledge and practical skills you would require in the sector Applied Science and Forensic Science. It is composed of 18 units, 6 of these units are core (mandatory) units and 12 are specialist units. It is broadly equivalent to 3 A Levels.

The BTEC National Extended Diploma is designed to provide specialist work related qualifications in Applied Science (Forensic).

- An introduction to learners of fundamental scientific ideas in biology, chemistry and physics
- Understanding how the scientific community works and how science works
- Develop the knowledge, understanding and skills of learners in relation to Applied Science and Forensic Science

### How will I be assessed?

The units are internally assessed. Assessments, wherever possible are various in forms, from written assignments (e.g. reports or essays) to individual or group verbal presentations, independent individual projects and role-plays.

### Entry Requirements

To join the course you will need 5 GCSEs at Grade C or above to include English Language and Science or a BTEC Diploma Level 2 in Applied Science qualification (This course cannot be combined with A level study) and to attend an interview at college.

### How much time will I spend on the course?

This is usually spread over 3½ days per week

### How is the course taught?

The timetable will consist of group and individual tutorials, Functional Skills, formal teaching, research (using internet and written materials) and practical sessions.

### Where is the Course taught?

Redditch Campus, Peakman street.

### What materials do I have to provide?

The use of online teaching aids are encouraged throughout the course, so it would also be useful if students have

### Are there any additional costs or specialist equipment required?

Students will have the chance to participate in science-related visits during the year which may link directly to assignments. There may be a small cost associated with some of these visits, to cover entry costs, you will be notified of these in advance.

### What are the mandatory modules or units?

#### Unit 1: Fundamentals of Science

This unit introduces learners to fundamental scientific ideas in biology, chemistry and physics. This unit helps with the foundation knowledge required to study applied science and is taught in a practical way, which includes the teaching of some basic practical techniques.

#### Unit 2: Working in the Science Industry

This unit starts by exploring the essential procedures and practices found in all laboratories. This is supported by a look at specialist laboratories. They are examined on their individual requirements in terms of efficiency, effectiveness and safety and how scientific data and records are kept in a modern lab. This unit is crucial in underpinning the training of a science laboratory technician.

#### Unit 3: Scientific Investigation

This unit is designed to allow students to use their knowledge and practical skills. They will have to follow set methods to carry out standard investigations and then write their own investigation which a peer will then carry out. Students will learn how to investigate from the early planning up to the conclusion and evaluation. This is a practical bases unit.

#### Unit 4: Scientific Practical Techniques

The ability to sample and test substances and materials is important to all branches of industry, in research work and forensic science. You will learn how to select and use appropriate instruments for the work being carried out, be able to calculate what is present in a sample and in what quantities.

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### Unit 5: Perceptions of Science

This unit shows how to explore the role of science in the wider context. How much influence does science have on society, people and politics? What influences science? In this unit the learners will explore the pressures on the science community. You will study how to research, then research the media, politics and society and look at case studies.

### Unit 6: Application of Numbers for Science Technicians

The aim of this unit is not to turn learners into mathematicians, but to make them comfortable with handling numbers and using numbers in a scientific setting. Maths is a wonderful tool once you have overcome any hesitation about being able to use it. For instance, scientists are often asked to make up solutions and to do this they must be able to calculate the quantities required.

### Optional Units

- Unit 8: Statistics for Science Technicians
- Unit 11: Physiology of Human Body Systems
- Unit 12: Physiology of Human Regulation
- Unit 15: Microbiology
- Unit 18: Genetics
- Unit 19: Practical Chemical Analysis
- Unit 20: Medical Physics Techniques
- Unit 22: Chemical Laboratory Techniques
- Unit 31: Criminology
- Unit 32: Forensic Evidence Collection and Analysis
- Unit 34: Criminal Psychology
- Unit 35: Forensic Psychology
- Unit 41: Forensic Media and Crime

### What can I do after this course?

After completing a BTEC National Extended Diploma in Applied Science (Forensic) you could apply to university to study applied science further or to study Forensic Science.

### What careers would this course be useful for?

If university is not for you, it is possible with this qualification to gain employment in a laboratory as a science technician in settings such as the NHS, schools or in an industrial laboratory.

### How do I apply / join this course?

You first need to complete an application form. You can find a form in the back of the Prospectus or you can call our Information Centre on (01527) 570020 and they will send you a form in the post. Alternatively you can complete the form on-line by visiting the College's website [www.ne-worcs.ac.uk](http://www.ne-worcs.ac.uk).

Once we have your form we will invite you to come into College and meet with a member of our teaching Team so you can ask any other questions you have. Usually at this meeting we will either offer you a place on the course you have applied for or, in some cases an alternative course.

### Can I get any financial support with the costs of study?

From September 2011, young people who need financial support to help them stay in Education or training after 16 can apply to NEW College for the new 16-19 Bursary Fund.

Those most in need will be eligible for a bursary of £1200 a year. This includes young people in care, care leavers, young people receiving income support and disabled young people receiving both Employment Support Allowance and Disability Living Allowance. Young people eligible for income support will include some teenage parents, young people estranged from their families, and those whose parents have died.

Other students facing financial difficulties may also be able to claim a bursary to help with costs of transport, food, equipment or other course-related costs.

