

# BTEC Extended Diploma Applied Science

(3 A level equivalent course)

## Why study Applied Science?

- The new BTEC Applied Science Level 3 Extended Diploma uses a combination of assessment styles to give students the confidence to apply their knowledge to succeed in the workplace and have the study skills to continue learning throughout their career.
- There is a range of vocational assessments – both practical and written – which allow students to showcase their learning and skills to best effect when they take their next step, such as applications to higher education courses or to potential employers.
- Over 75% of the assessment is done by internally assessed coursework so it is a good option for students who are less confident in taking examinations.
- The course covers a wide range of Biology, Chemistry, Physics and Science topics giving an excellent foundation for many university courses or jobs.



## Why study Applied Science at Solihull Sixth Form College?

- The course is delivered in a variety of ways to keep it interesting and to help you to develop a wide range of skills. There are laboratory-based practical assignments, supported by self-study, presentations, group work and discussion.
- Throughout your course you will be taught by specialist Biology, Chemistry and Physics teachers and supported by a team of dedicated technicians.
- As a part of the course you will complete two work experience weeks giving you an insight into the world of work and allowing you to find out about potential future careers.
- Lessons are taught in specialist laboratories with access to full class sets of equipment, allowing you to develop your practical skills.

### Case Study

Among the recent successful students to have taken this course is **Joshua Pearce**.

He came to the College from Langley School and achieved Triple Distinction\* in his BTEC Applied Science course. He has progressed to Keele University to study Biology.



***“The best thing about being at College was meeting new friends and having new experiences. Having access to the computers in the Learning Resource Centre helped with my studies, as did the teachers who suggested further reading and advice as to how to improve my work.”***

***- student Joshua Pearce***



## Course Outline

The BTEC Applied Science Extended Diploma qualification consists of Mandatory and Optional units, which are assessed by different methods. To achieve the BTEC Extended Diploma, a student must study a total of 13 units. These include:

### 7 MANDATORY UNITS:

2 assessed by written exam (set and marked by Pearson):

- **Unit 1. Principles and Applications of Science**
- **Unit 5. Principles and Applications of Science II**

2 assessed by task (set and marked by Pearson):

- **Unit 3. Science Investigation Skills**
- **Unit 7. Contemporary Issues in Science**

3 assessed by coursework (set and marked internally by the College):

- **Unit 2. Practical Scientific Procedures and Techniques**
- **Unit 4. Laboratory Techniques and their Application**
- **Unit 6. Investigative Project**

## 6 OPTIONAL UNITS:

These units will be assessed by the traditional coursework assignments and are set and marked internally by the College. Units include Chemistry, Biology and Physics based topics such as (subject to change):

- **Microbiology and Microbiological Techniques**
- **Diseases and Infections**
- **Medical Physics Applications**
- **Practical Chemical Analysis**

### Assessment

Mandatory units - 57% externally assessed, 43% coursework.

Optional units - 100% coursework.

Examining Board – BTEC.

This 13 unit qualification is the equivalent of three full A Levels. Grades are awarded from Triple Distinction\* to Triple Pass and carry the normal number of UCAS points for university entry.

### Special Entry Requirements

Minimum grade 4 or above in GCSE Mathematics and two grade 4s from Biology, Chemistry and Physics or grade 4-4 in Combined Science is required. In addition, standard BTEC/CACHE entry requirements apply - see [www.solihullsf.ac.uk/courses/entry-requirements](http://www.solihullsf.ac.uk/courses/entry-requirements). A clear DBS 'Disclosure and Barring Service' may be needed depending on the nature of the placement. The cost of the DBS is approximately £60.00 and if it is needed then you are responsible for this payment (details of how to pay will be provided).

### Prohibited Options

None.

### What do our students go on to do?

There are a wide range of opportunities; Biomedical Science is a very popular choice. For the highest achievers, Pharmacy is an option. In recent years, as well as Pharmacy and Biomedical Science, our students have progressed to Animal Biology, Forensic Sciences, Pharmaceutical Sciences, Dental Technology, Quantity Surveying, Chiropractic, Nursing and Accounting degree.

### Work Placement

On this course you will be expected to undertake a work experience placement in both the first and the second year, the purpose of which is to gather information and insights about the workplace, which can be included in your College assignments. Work placements also help develop your employability skills. By the end of the course, you will have gained relevant skills and have a CV with cover letter along with a LinkedIn account. Joining LinkedIn will offer you career opportunities now and will assist your long-term career aspirations, as your profile will be accessible by thousands of prospective employers. Throughout your time at College, you will use the LinkedIn account to record all of your activities including work experience, any part time paid employment and gain access to relevant professional links.

### Cost Implications

Payment for transport for visits. Payment for DBS check for work experience (if this is required for either of your placements).

### Complementary Subjects or Enrichment Courses

There will be opportunities throughout the course to go on trips and visits relevant to your studies, as well as guest speakers from universities and local employers.

#### Examination Results

Examination results are excellent, with a large proportion of our students achieving high grades. The full breakdown of results is as follows:

Year	Entry	Distinction*	Distinction	Merit	Pass	Fail	Pass %
2018	54	32	18	2	0	2	96.3%
2019	74	41	25	7	1	0	100.0%
2020	71	52	14	4	1	0	100.0%

#### Contact

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