

Welcome. Essential information and advice for teachers for the BTEC Firsts in Applied Science

Whether you are new to BTEC or an experienced practitioner the following brief guide has been created to enable you to access vital information quickly and effectively. BTEC qualifications have developed over many years and encourage loyalty and a sense of involvement by teacher and learner alike.

There is, without doubt, a BTEC approach to teaching and learning, which encourages achievement and motivation through utilising a variety of education and assessments methodologies.

Through the following guide we hope this will assist you in accessing the essential knowledge and resources to deliver the Edexcel Level 2 BTEC First Certificate and Diploma in Applied Science.

1. How do we get approval?

UK Schools and colleges are now able to gain centre and qualification approval through a new, easy to use online system, which is available through Edexcel Online. Centres must have both centre approval and qualification approval before delivering any BTEC qualification. For publicly-funded Schools and FE Colleges click [here](#) for more details.

2. Where to get the details of the course requirements

These are within the specification, which can be downloaded [here](#), or is available in printed format from [Edexcel Publications](#).

3. What resources are available to help teach and assess the BTEC Firsts in Applied Science?

There is a useful guide for teachers; see [Tutor Support Material](#) for the BTEC Firsts in Applied Science.

4. Tell me more about the teaching and learning approaches we can use with the BTEC Firsts in Applied Science

Within each unit of the specification there is a detailed section entitled Essential Guidance for Tutors. This encompasses such aspects as delivery issues and advice, guidance on assessment, the essential resources needed to teach and assess the unit and some ideas on indicative reading, as well as links to other units in the programme.

5. How do we assess the BTEC Firsts in Applied Science?

The guide [here](#) provides the essential information to enable centre staff to undertake effective assignments and provides exemplars of recording documentation and other information.

6. What training is available?

Edexcel offers a number of training programmes countrywide. For details of these click [here](#).

7. How do we ensure quality through Internal Verification?

Central to BTEC programmes is the requirement for centres to implement an effective quality assurance system. For advice and guidance on Internal Verification click [here](#). Our Signposts guide (click [here](#)) is also an invaluable resource.

8. How do we ensure the standards are met?

The attached [Handbook](#) will assist with this; see particularly sections 10 to 12. These identify how Edexcel monitors centre quality processes through risk assessment visits and in their performance and ensuring that Standards are maintained through National Standards Sampling.

9. How do we register learners and get information on administering and the certification of BTECs?

This information is in the Information Manual ([online](#) or available from [Edexcel Publications](#) in hard copy).

10. With whom can we interface from Edexcel?

On matters concerning the verification of programmes the external verifier is the key link; his/her contact details are available after registration of learners on Edexcel Online (EOL); click [here](#) for details.

Our Regional Development Managers are able to advise and support on a wide range matters regarding our qualifications and services. He/she can be contacted through the regional office. Click [here](#) for a list of regional offices and contacts detail information. They can help you network with other centres offering these BTEC Firsts.

11. What policies should we have in place when running the BTEC Firsts in Applied Science?

[Here](#) are policies to assist you in developing local policies.

12. I am looking for promotional material to help recruit new learners to the BTEC Firsts; is there such information available?

Details of the available (free) promotional materials are on Page 70-72 in the Edexcel Publications Catalogue, available from [Edexcel Publications](#).

13. I am looking for a diagram regarding the levels and equivalences of academic and vocational qualifications - can you help?

Yes; [here](#) is a schematic of the revised National Qualifications Framework.

14. I am looking for a Level 1 BTEC Applied Science qualification? Does Edexcel offer a Level 1 Applied Science course?

Yes. The BTEC Introductory Certificate and Diploma in Applied Science is designed for learners at Level 1. [Click on this link](#) to download the specification and to find out more about countrywide launch meetings, refer to the Training section of the Edexcel website, using the links under Question 6.

15. Is there a checklist for those starting BTEC courses?

Yes. Please [click here](#) to access.