

Pearson BTEC  
International Level 3  
**Qualifications**

**L3**

***Career-focused qualifications  
that work for you***

A Guide for Students and Parents



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**74%**

of businesses say they prefer a mix of academic and technical qualifications.<sup>1</sup>



**85%**

of 16-18 year old students take a vocational course.<sup>2</sup>



In 2018, nearly

**23%**

of students entering University did so with a BTEC.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> CBI Skills Survey, 2018

<sup>2</sup> Social Marketing Foundation Report, 2016

<sup>3</sup> UCAS and HESA data on entry to HE, 2018

# A BTEC qualification is unlike any other.

## Why?

## Because it works for everyone.

BTEC Works for students developing the skills and knowledge they need to be successful. BTEC Works for teachers preparing their students for jobs of the future. BTEC Works for employers recruiting people who can hit the ground running.

BTEC is an effective path into the career you've always wanted. So, study a BTEC – because **BTEC Works**.

“BTEC played a fantastic role in setting me up well for university but also in securing my first job. I'd really recommend the BTEC as a way of pursuing a career or passion in a particular area.”

Tunji Akintokun MBE, Senior Vice President, PwC



Want to find out more about BTEC?

Learn more at [btecworks.com/international](https://www.btecworks.com/international)



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# Who is Pearson?

Pearson is the world's leading learning company with 24,000 employees across 70 countries worldwide, and global headquarters in London. We combine world-class educational content and assessment, powered by services and technology, to enable more effective teaching and personalised learning. We believe that wherever learning flourishes so do people.

Pearson has grown to become one of the largest international awarding organisations with more than 5 million students studying our qualifications at more than 6,000 schools, colleges and employers globally each year.

Pearson offers academic and vocational qualifications that are globally recognised and benchmarked, with educational excellence rooted in names like Edexcel, BTEC and LCCI. Along with these qualifications, Pearson also offers English language assessments. Our unique insight and world-class expertise come from our long history of working closely with teachers, employers, learners, researchers, authors and thought leaders.

Our mission is to help people make progress through access to better learning. We believe that learning opens up opportunities, creating fulfilling careers and improving lives.

Learn more about Pearson at [👉 pearson.com](https://www.pearson.com)

**BTEC WORKS**  
for Rachna

PLAY VIDEO



“BTEC helps you to be more independent and know what’s happening in the real world rather than just learning from a textbook.”

Rachna Udasi, University undergraduate in Business and former BTEC Business student



# What is a BTEC?

**BTECs are high quality, career-focused qualifications grounded in the real world of work.**

BTEC courses focus on skills-based learning and are designed around themed units. Rather than testing everything together at the end, BTECs are tested throughout the course using assessments based on real-life scenarios. This practical approach allows BTEC learners to develop and apply the knowledge and skills that employers and universities are looking for.

**And that means there are plenty of opportunities to learn, improve and succeed.**

A BTEC is so much more than just a qualification – former BTEC students often say how they continue to apply what they learned on their BTEC course when they progress on to further study, or starting a job, and as they advance throughout their career.

BTECs are all about applying knowledge and skills in real-life scenarios to create career success and develop the employability skills modern businesses need.

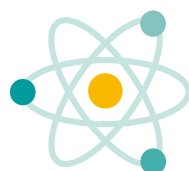
**With a BTEC qualification, you will learn and develop key skills, such as:**



Organisation  
and working  
to deadlines



Teamwork,  
communication  
and leadership



Ability to learn  
and adapt



Initiative and  
problem solving



Want to find out more about BTEC?  
Learn more at [btecworks.com/international3](https://btecworks.com/international3)

# Why is a BTEC right for me?

Pearson BTEC International Level 3 qualifications:



Provide specialist, work-related learning in a range of sectors.



Equip you with the specialist knowledge, practical skills and understanding you need to progress along your chosen path.



Are career-based qualifications designed to give you the skills you need to move on to higher education or go straight into employment.



BTEC-qualified candidates are chosen for their academic and practical skills by more employers and higher education institutions than ever before.



Use a 'learn-by-doing' approach.



Are designed by employers and industry bodies.



Give you a practical learning style that provides you with the opportunity to develop skills that you will draw on in the working world.



Prepare you for your next step, be it a job or further study.



Develop employability skills such as creativity and problem solving, which are embedded in the BTEC programme.





# How will I be assessed?

With a focus on practical, skills-based learning, BTEC courses are designed around a number of themed units. You will study several units for which you will need to present evidence, based on actual work and studies. This allows you to demonstrate your skills and knowledge, while building your portfolio of work.

Rather than testing everything together at the end of the course, BTECs give you the opportunity to show what you have learnt in each unit and build on your achievements as you progress. That means there are plenty of chances for you to learn, improve and succeed.

“BTEC has been crucial in preparing me for the career that I currently have and my career aspirations for the future.”

**BTEC WORKS**  
for Ryan

PLAY VIDEO



Ryan Kenny, Senior Software Engineer at  
Cohens Chemists and former BTEC IT student

# Recognition and progression

Pearson's BTEC qualifications are recognised by a range of Ministries of Education and other recognition bodies, around the world.

We are continually seeking to expand the number of countries where BTECs are recognised to provide a vocational education option to a wider range of people. In addition to the recognition listed in this document, a wide range of universities, employers and professional bodies around the world accept and recognise students with BTEC qualifications. In countries such as Brunei, Maldives and Uzbekistan, we have worked in partnership with their Departments for Education to develop BTEC qualifications for their learners.

**Your Pearson BTEC International Level 3 is aligned to:**

## Around the world

- A Level
- International A-levels
- International Baccalaureate (IB)
- Canada - Ontario Secondary School Diploma
- China - High School Diploma
- Hong Kong A-levels
- Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education
- India - Standard XII
- Malaysia - STPM
- Pakistan - A-levels intermediate
- Singapore - A-levels H2
- Thailand - Matayom 6 (M6)
- USA - APs

## Did you know?

The fastest growing route to higher education is the combination of BTEC and A levels, according to the latest analysis from UCAS.



## Did you know?

Internationally, over 260 universities recognise BTECs for admission to undergraduate study, including those within the US, Canada, Australia, New Zealand and UAE.





## In the European Union

- A-levels/ AS-levels
- BTEC Level 3 Nationals
- European Baccalaureate (EB)
- International Baccalaureate (IB)
- Austria - Reifeprüfung/Matura
- Belgium - Certificat d'Enseignement Secondaire or Diploma Secundair Onderwijs
- Bulgaria - Diploma za sredno obrazovanie
- Croatia - Matura
- Cyprus - Apolytirion; Apolytirion + A-level
- Czech Republic - Maturitni Zkousce
- Denmark - Bevis for Studentereksamen
- Estonia - Gümnaasiumi lõputunnistus and Riigieksamid (State Exams)
- Finland - Ylioppilastutkintotodistus/ Studentexamensbetyg
- FB, France - French Baccalaureate
- France - FB à l'Option Internationale
- Germany - Abitur
- Greece - Apolytirion; Apolytirion + A-level
- Hungary - Érettségi
- Ireland - Irish Leaving Certificate
- Italy - Diploma di Esame di Stato
- Latvia - Atestāts par vispārejo videjo izglītību
- Lithuania - Brandos Atestatas + 3 state exams
- Luxembourg - Diplôme de Fin d'Etudes Secondaires
- Macedonia - State Matura
- Malta - Matriculation Certificate
- Netherlands - VWO
- Norway - Vitnemål
- Poland - Matura
- Portugal - Certificado de fim de Estudos Secundarios
- Romania - Diploma de Bacalaureat
- Slovakia - Vysvedcenie o maturitnej skúške
- Slovenia - Maturitetno Spricevalo
- Spain - Título de Bachillerato
- Sweden - Slutbetyg
- Switzerland - Certificat de Maturité/ Maturitätszeugnis/ Maturitätsausweis/ Attestato di Maturità

“They’re designed with the help of teachers, employers and universities. This keeps the BTEC curriculum relevant for today’s job market – it’s the qualification you should have on your CV. ”

**Peter Jones CBE**

Founder, Peter Jones Enterprise Academy



Illustration by Lucy Vigrass



Want to find out more about BTEC?

Learn more at [btecworks.com/international3](https://www.btecworks.com/international3)

# What can I study?

## SUBJECT AREAS



Art and Design



Business



Construction



Creative Media



Engineering



Hospitality



IT



Land-based



Music



Performing Arts



Production Arts



Science



Sport



Travel & Tourism

*“Nearly 1 million learners every year choose a BTEC course”*

## BTEC LEARNER STORY

# Josephine Kaiga

Studying at Braeburn International School, Tanzania, Josephine won BTEC Student of the Year 2019 for her studies in BTEC Creative Media, and her production work to promote important causes.

Josephine has applied what she learned on her BTEC course to help raise awareness of assault, different types of abuse, and FGM prevention. She's a Human Rights ambassador at EAMUN, she co-organised a 'Girls' Empowerment' day in the community and ran workshops on entrepreneurship, female healthcare and more.





# Pearson BTEC in Business & Enterprise

Ever wondered how businesses work, why some brands are so successful, and how some companies make it to number 1 in their field? Or have you had ideas about a business of your own you want to start?

Studying a BTEC in Business gives you the scope to develop a broader understanding of business organisations and practices, providing subject-specific skills and knowledge about markets, customers, finance, marketing, operations, communication, information technology and business strategy.

Practical assignments set in real-life business scenarios help you learn, build skills and develop behaviours which you'll use, whatever career you choose in the future.

## Ttanya Sachdev



### Studied

BTEC Level 3 Extended Diploma in Business, Braeburn International School Arusha.

### Course highlights

Through the course, Ttanya had the opportunity to organise fireworks night, fun days, charity workshops and the Christmas party.

### Next Steps

Going to University to study for a degree in Business.

## What Business qualifications are available?

- Business
- Enterprise and Entrepreneurship

## What kind of career can I go into?

With business needed in every industry, you can be sure studying business will support you in your career goals. Here are a few to get you started:

- Business Advisor
- Civil Service
- Financial Manager
- Management Consultant
- Project Manager
- Marketing Executive
- Retail Manager
- Office Manager

The top 5 skills employers look for that you'll learn on a BTEC Business course:



Time Management



Organisation



IT



Research Skills



Working with others

# Pearson BTEC in Construction

Are you a practical person, fascinated by how things work and are put together? Want to learn why we build things the way we do and the best materials to use?

By 2020, the 21st century's great migration to the cities will be well underway. Cities will be growing across the fast-growing countries in Asia, Africa, the Middle East and Latin America. Even the developed Western nations will be urbanising, albeit at a slower pace. The volume of building activity will be huge, expanding the world's inventory of institutional-grade real estate. Global construction output is expected to almost double to US\$15 trillion by 2025, up from US\$8.7 trillion in 2012.\*

Whether you're passionate about designing energy-efficient homes or interested in exploring sustainable building materials for future homes, the BTEC International Level 3 features brand new units, to help students learn the key skills associated with the building industry.

The construction industry is packed with highly rewarding, modern careers. Find out about the different pathways available to you.

## What Construction qualifications are available?

- Construction and the Built Environment
- Civil Engineering
- Building Services Engineering

## What kind of career can I go into?

People are often surprised by how many kinds of jobs there are in the construction industry. The main job roles are:

- |  |  |                        |
|--|--|------------------------|
| • Architects and Architectural Technologists | • Building Surveyors                           | • Landscape Architects |
| • Building Services Engineers                | • Civil, Structural and Geotechnical Engineers | • Quantity Surveyors   |
|  |  | • Site Managers        |

### Kasra Soltani



\* pwc.com, 2020

#### Studied

BTEC Level 3 Extended Diploma in Construction and the Built Environment, Croydon College.

#### Course highlights

Learning about water systems, electricity, gas, foundations, structures, building surveying, property law and quantity surveying.

#### Next Steps

Kasra is now fully employed at a quantity surveying firm and developing his career further.

The top 5 skills employers look for that you'll learn on a BTEC Construction course:



Decision Making



Creativity



Team Working



Presentation Skills



Researching



# Pearson BTEC in Creatives

Are you looking for a way to build a career around your creativity? Revenue from creative industries exceeded those of telecommunications services (which comes in at \$1,570 billion globally), and even surpassed the entire GDP of India (\$1,900 billion).\*

Whether you're a performer, dancer, musician, artist or media specialist, there's a BTEC course where you can learn about the industry and develop your creative talents. You'll learn skills and techniques, putting them into practice straight away through projects, assignments and workshops. It's all about getting stuck in and developing the skills and knowledge to help your talent shine and succeed in your career.

## Millie Davey



### Studied

BTEC Level 3 Extended Diploma in Performing Arts, Scarborough TEC.

### Course highlights

One assignment covered units on classical theatre and mask work and Millie's class used this opportunity to explore a production of Oedipus Rex.

### Next Steps

To continue down the acting path by studying at a Performing Arts college.

\* World Economic Forum, 2020

## What Creative qualifications are available?

- Art and Design
- Creative Media
- Music
- Performing Arts
- Production Arts

## What kind of career can I go into?

The world's your oyster – creative talent can take you into a wide range of industries and career paths including:

- Advertising and Marketing
- Crafts, Fashion and Design
- TV, Film, Radio and Photography
- Music, Performing and Visual Arts
- IT, Software and Computer Services
- Museums, Galleries and Libraries

The top 5 skills employers look for that you'll learn on a BTEC Creatives course:



Problem Solving



Professionalism



Teamwork



Work Ethic



Communication  
(in different formats)

# Pearson BTEC in Engineering

Ever wanted to combine science and math's with creative design ideas to solve real-world problems? Then a BTEC in Engineering could be the course for you.

BTECs in Engineering are all about combining creative ideas with practical applications. From the aerospace and automotive industries to housing and healthcare, a BTEC in Engineering is the ideal choice for people with a creative flair and a pragmatic mind.

## What Engineering qualifications are available?

- Engineering
- Electrical and Electronic Engineering
- Mechanical Engineering
- Digital Engineering
- Manufacturing Engineering
- Aeronautical Engineering
- Mechatronic Engineering

## What kind of career can I go into?

Whether you want to head for the stars, drill deep into the earth – or help build and improve the world around us, there's a job in Engineering for you, such as:

- Agricultural Engineer
- Aerospace Engineer
- Automotive Engineer
- Biomedical Engineer
- Civil Engineer
- Software Engineer

## Ryan Kimber



### Studied

BTEC Level 3 Extended Diploma in Engineering and Manufacturing Technologies, Isle of Wight College.

### Course highlights

Building networks and connections to engineering companies while on work experience.

### Next Steps

Now working at GKN Aerospace designing a project for GKN's craft apprentices.

The top 5 skills employers look for that you'll learn on a BTEC Engineering course:



Creativity



Problem Solving



Communication



Researching



Adaptability



# Pearson BTEC in Hospitality, Travel & Tourism

Do you love working with people, have great customer service skills and want to build a career in an industry with plenty of entry level and progression opportunities? Then the travel and hospitality industry could be for you. Employers range from hotels and travel groups to small, family-run businesses.

A BTEC in Hospitality or Travel and Tourism offers practical and assignment-based learning. You'll be able to take what you have learnt on your BTEC and apply it directly to your career in these sectors.

## What Hospitality, Travel and Tourism qualifications are available?

- Hospitality and Catering
- Travel and Tourism

## What kind of career can I go into?

Here's a taste of the different careers a BTEC in this sector could lead to:

- Catering Manager
- Conference Centre Manager
- Customer Service Manager
- Event Manager
- Travel Consultant
- Tour Operator
- Aviation Operation

## Luke Bearpark



### Studied

BTEC Extended Certificate in Travel and Tourism at Exeter College.

### Course highlights

The course covered all different aspects of the travel and tourism industry and the teachers were extremely passionate.

### Next Steps

To become a fully qualified member of the international cabin crew at British Airways.

The top 5 skills employers look for that you'll learn on a BTEC Hospitality or BTEC Travel & Tourism course:



Time Management



Good Communication



A Positive Work Ethic



Confidence



Being Friendly & Approachable

# Pearson BTEC in IT & Computing

Do you enjoy learning about technology and how it works? Skills shortages in key areas of the digital economy mean there's a wide variety of IT careers available for people with the right qualifications and experience.

Careers in IT can involve creating applications or systems, solving problems with technology – or supporting people who use it. With 72% of large companies and 49% of SMEs suffering tech skill gaps, a career in IT will always be needed.\*

BTEC courses provide a solid grounding in all aspects of IT, from building computer systems and programming through to digital animation, data modelling, cybersecurity, social media, web development and 3D modelling. You'll be putting theory into practice with practical tasks and tests.

## Matthew Riseby-Ward



### Studied

BTEC Level 3 Extended Diploma in IT at NSCG Stafford College.

### Course highlights

Work experience needed to pass the course gave Matt placement experience in development departments where he gained commercial experience, coding and web development.

### Next Steps

Starting a Level 4 Software Development Apprenticeship with a local company, then training to become a fully qualified Software Developer.

\* Digital Skills for the UK Economy Report, 2016

## What IT qualifications are available?

- Information Technology

## What kind of career can I go into?

You will experience a challenging and rewarding career in the ever-changing world of technology. Here's a taste of the different careers a BTEC in the sector could lead to:

- Applications Development
- Cyber Security & Risk Management
- Data Analysis and Analytics
- Hardware Engineer
- IT Consultancy
- Multimedia Programming
- Game Development
- Software Engineer
- Technical Support

The top 5 skills employers look for that you'll learn on a BTEC IT and Computing course:



Problem Solving



Analytics



Researching Skills



Data Analysis Skills



Organisation



# Pearson BTEC in Land-based

Have an interest in hands-on land-based subjects and would like to develop your knowledge in this industry? Want to experience what the land-based sector is all about?

Working in the land-based industries can mean being out in the fields growing our crops, but there are lots of other roles too. You might be looking after animals, maintaining machinery and generally keeping the land looking green and pleasant; or you could be researching new ways to produce food or conserve and protect the environment.

With a BTEC you'll learn the skills needed to help excel your career in the industry in the right direction.

## Chloe Rochester



### Studied

BTEC in Animal Management at Bishop Burton College.

### Course highlights

Studying aquatics, nutrition and the business side of the industry. Being in the reptile rooms and working in the nocturnal rooms with the sugar gliders, handling the hamsters, feeding, cleaning – everything!

### Next Steps

Interested in helping horses in the future.

## What Land-based qualifications are available?

- Land-based Studies
- Agriculture
- Horticulture

## What kind of career can I go into?

In brief: a lot. With so many roles available we can't list them all, but here are some examples:

- Animal Trainer
- Sports Ground Operative
- Equine Groom
- Florist
- Ecologist
- Forest Operative
- Farrier

The top 5 skills employers look for that you'll learn on a BTEC Land-based course:



Communication



Time Management



Self-Motivation



Lateral Thinking



Independent Study Skills

# Pearson BTEC in Science

The pharmaceutical industry is expected to see annual compound growth of over 6% and reach \$1.2 trillion in 2024, with R&D spending at 16.9% of prescription sales in 2024.\*

Learning and applying scientific thinking creates critical thinkers and will drive the next generation of innovation and growth.

Principles and concepts combined with skills and real-life applications across a range of scientific disciplines – that's what a BTEC in Science is about.

You'll be assessed through practical, task-based and written assessments, which means it's about so much more than just remembering facts and formulae: with a BTEC you're drawing on your knowledge and understanding to apply what you know to realistic situations.

## Abbie Densham



### Studied

BTEC Level 3 Extended Diploma Applied Science, Exeter College.

### Course highlights

The pace of study and the spreading of assessments and coursework deadlines throughout the year.

### Next Steps

To go onto University of Manchester to study Midwifery and become a midwife.

\* What Is The Future of Pharma? 12 Experts Share Their Insights - Disruptor Daily, 2020

## What Science qualifications are available?

- Applied Science
- Applied Science (Environmental Science)
- Applied Science (Biomedical Science)

## What kind of career can I go into?

With a grounding in Applied Science, you could progress towards a range of fields like:

- Food Science
- Forensic Science
- Laboratory Assistant
- Health Science
- Industry Technician
- Medical Technician
- Pharmaceutical Industry

The top 5 skills employers look for that you'll learn on a BTEC Science course:



Personal Organisation



Time Management



Quality of Communication



Practical Skills



Analytical

# Pearson BTEC in Sport

DEVELOPED IN PARTNERSHIP WITH  
LIVERPOOL FOOTBALL CLUB



**Do you enjoy being active, keeping fit, learning about wellness or coaching others? Would you like to have a career in sports, fitness or nutrition?**

Studying a BTEC in Sport is a great way to learn about working in the sport and fitness sector. There are so many careers involved in Sport – sports coach, nutritionist and sports psychologist, to name a few.

On a BTEC Sport course you will learn in and outside the classroom, getting to grips with the theory behind sport as well as getting involved in playing it, giving you a well-rounded understanding of the subject.

## Dominika Bzdon



### Studied

BTEC Level 3 Extended Diploma in Sport and Exercise Sciences at Nelson and Colne College.

### Course highlights

Studying units in Sport and Exercise Psychology; Exercise, Health and Lifestyle; and Sports Coaching.

### Next Steps

To study Sports Coaching at university, followed by a PGCE, allowing Dominika to become a PE teacher.

## What Sport courses are available?

- Sport
- Sport, Business and Management
- Sport Coaching and Development
- Sports Facilities Operations and Management
- Sport, Fitness Instructing and Personal Training

## What kind of career can I go into?

Here are some of the careers a BTEC in Sport could lead to:

- Personal Trainer/Fitness Instructor
- Nutritionist
- Psychologist
- Outdoor Activities Instructor
- Sports Analyst
- Sports Media
- Leisure Manager
- Sports Coach

The top 5 skills employers look for that you'll learn on a BTEC Sport course:



Communication



Decision Making



Teamwork



Organisation



Leadership



# Join the BTEC community

Follow our social media channels to connect with like-minded students and discover the latest BTEC news and updates.

Message or tag us in your posts to let us know what exciting things have been happening on your BTEC course – we love sharing your news.



Take a look at our website and find out more about Pearson BTEC International Level 3 qualifications:

➔ [\*\*btecworks.com/international3\*\*](https://btecworks.com/international3)