

BTEC Level 3 National Foundation Diploma in Forensic Investigation

Summer preparatory work 2024

In preparation for joining the department and starting your journey on the BTEC qualification, it is very important to make use of some of the time over the summer months to make sure that you give yourself the best start possible to the course.

As forensics is an applied science, you need to make sure that you have a good understanding of the key concepts from chemistry, biology and physics. Therefore, task 1

1. Seneca Learning

This is a fantastic learning platform that will be able to assist you with many aspects of the course. You may already be familiar with it, from using it with your GCSE subjects, and therefore already have an account. If not, then you can sign up for free, via the following link - <https://senecalearning.com/en-GB/>

Once you are logged in, you are to search for the course titled: Applied Science: BTEC Level 3, and work through the chapter called – 1. Principles of Science I. This will help you to reinforce a number of key scientific concepts from your GCSEs, that you will need to be confident with, as well as starting to take you to the next level, and give you insight of what will be looked at during different points of the year throughout year 1.

The image shows a screenshot of the Seneca Learning website. The top navigation bar includes the Seneca logo, 'FOR TEACHERS', and links for 'Home' and 'Classes'. The main heading is 'Add courses to Summer'. A search bar contains the text 'Applied Science: BTEC Level 3'. Below the search bar, there are filters for 'Price' (Free and Premium) and 'Science'. The search results show a card for 'Applied Science: BTEC Level 3' with a thumbnail image of laboratory glassware. To the right, a sidebar shows the course content structure: '1 Principles of Science I' with sub-sections '1.1 Structure & Bonding', '1.2 Properties of Substances', '1.3 Cell Structure & Function', and '1.4 Cell Specialisation'. Below the search bar, there are sections for 'Cram mode' (Speed test your knowledge across multiple topics) and 'Assignments' (No open assignments on this course). The 'Next section' link is also visible.

You will be expected to provide evidence of the completion and outcome of all 7 parts of the chapter.

Task 2. Career profile

As part of choosing the course, you will be expected to have an idea of where you would like the course to take you or how you see it benefitting you in other ways in the future. You are therefore to use a variety of resources, some options below, to research and produce a document in any format of your choosing, showing a profile of a job that interests you the most. Highlighting the links to the qualification and/or the skills and knowledge that you hope to develop from the course that would help you in that career. Just to point out, it doesn't have to be for example a 'Forensic Toxicologist'. This qualification supports you in many career pathways, from the healthcare professions to other public services and scientific pathways. This task will also have the added benefit in supporting you greatly with the coursework unit carried out in year 1.

<https://www.prospects.ac.uk/job-profiles>

<https://www.ucas.com/careers-advice>

Task 3. Case studies

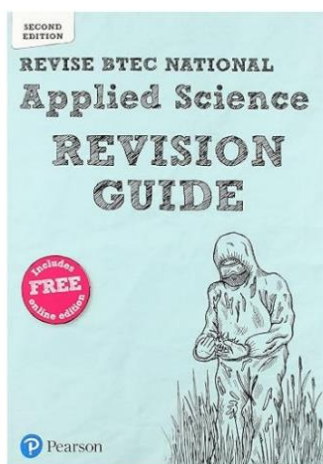
Throughout the 13 coursework assignments over the 2 years, to achieve the best grade that you can, you will need to demonstrate that you have taken responsibility of carrying out background reading around the subject. When it comes to the assignments from the forensic units, this can mainly be done by showing your knowledge and understanding of relevant cases involving crime that have been forensically investigated. For this final task, you are to make use of any available resources, for example articles/books/websites/documentaries/podcasts, and gain knowledge of at least 3 forensic cases. You will then be asked to talk about these cases and share with others in the class throughout the first year.

Suggestions to some recommended programmes –

- *Forensics: The Real CSI (BBC iPlayer)*
- *Expert Witness (BBC iPlayer)*
- *Cold Case Forensics (itvX)*
- *Forensic Investigators (Amazon Prime)*
- *Forensics: Catching the Killer (Now TV)*

Additional suggestions and resources –

Fantastic revision guide, and highly recommended to support you with the applied science units of the course. 2 out of the 6 units over the 2 years, are assessed via external examinations, both from the applied science units, and they are both covered by this revision guide.



Revise BTEC National Applied Science Revision Guide (Second edition): Second edition (REVISE BTEC Nationals in Applied Science) Paperback – 14 Jun. 2021

by Ann Fullick (Author), Karlee Lees (Author), Chris Meunier (Author), & 2 more

4.6 ★★★★★ 173 ratings

Part of: REVISE BTEC Nationals in Applied Science (2 books) [See all formats and editions](#)

Exam Board: Pearson BTEC
Academic Level: BTEC National
Subject: Applied Science
First teaching: September 2016
First Exams: Summer 2017

Opportunities to complete MOOCs via –

<https://www.futurelearn.com/>

<https://www.open.edu/openlearn/>

NewScientist –

<https://www.newscientist.com/article-topic/forensics/>

TED talks –

<https://www.ted.com/search?q=forensic+science>

Course specification –

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/BTEC-Nationals/Forensics-and-Criminology/2017/Specification/btec-nat-fdip-forsci-spec.pdf>

We hope you have a great summer, best of luck with your GCSE results, and we look forward to welcoming you into the department in September.

Tom and Lucie