

Science

BTEC National Level 3 Forensic & Criminal Investigation Foundation Diploma

Subject Applied Science with Forensics

Exam Board Edexcel

Specification Numbers 603/0251/3

Teachers Responsible Ms Riddell/Mr Hollands/Miss Gillanders

Introduction Forensic Science is the more vocational course the Science department run at Level 3 and is the equivalent of 1.5 A-Levels. It is largely coursework based with a small examined element. Students will spend the first year getting to grips with a wide range of concepts from the separate Science A-Levels before focussing on the skills needed in the Forensics industry in Year 13.

Aims of the Course The aim of the course is to develop the skills, knowledge and techniques that will allow students to move on to a career in the sciences if they so wish. It will also develop the students' organisational and communication skills with a mixture of externally assessed and internally verified tasks. They will cover the following topics:

Core Units:

- Principles and Applications of Science
- Practical Scientific Procedures and Techniques
- Science Investigation Skills
- Forensic Investigation in Procedures in Practice

Two Specialist Units which may include:

- Environmental Forensics
- Forensic Fire Investigation
- Forensic Traffic Collision Investigation
- Forensic Photography
- Forensic Genetics Assignment
- Forensic Anthropology and Archaeology

How You Are Assessed The course is largely coursework with a small externally examined section:
Unit 1 – 1 hour and 30 minute exam set and marked by Pearson
Unit 2 – Assignment set and marked internally
Unit 3 – Task set and examined externally
Unit 4 – Assignment set and marked internally
Specialist Units – Assignment set and marked internally

Links to Future Careers The course is designed for learners who are interested in Forensic and Criminal Investigation with a view to progressing to a wide range of higher education courses. It is equivalent to one and a half A-Levels and works well taken in combination with other A-Levels or BTEC courses.

Entry Requirement

Grades 4-4 in GCSE Combined Science, Grade 4 in Maths, Grade 4 in English