

Applied Psychology

Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Applied Psychology

Course Leader: Mrs Elliott

What's it all about?

The Applied Psychology BTEC Level 3 will give you the opportunity to develop knowledge and understanding of key approaches and theories in psychology and apply these to issues relevant to contemporary society, for example lifestyle choices and unhealthy behaviours such as addiction. You will learn about the types and characteristics of mental disorders, approaches to treatment, and the role of professionals in supporting and promoting mental health. In addition to exploring the scientific process in psychological research methodology through conducting your own psychological research project.

What are the entry requirements?

BTEC Nationals are demanding, as you expect of the most respected applied learning qualification in the UK. The entry requirements are therefore Combined Science trilogy grades 9-4 to 4-4 or GCSE Biology grades 9-4, GCSE Maths grade 9-4 and English grades 9-4.

What will I learn on this course?

4 units of which 3 are mandatory and 2 are external.

All students will study the four units of which 2 will be externally assessed* and 2 will be internally assessed:

- Unit 1: Psychological approaches and applications*
- Unit 2: Conducting psychological research
- Unit 3: Health psychology*
- Unit 4: Optional unit- TBC as will depend upon the skills of the cohort (Criminal and forensic psychology, promoting children's psychological development, introduction to psychopathology, applied sport psychology)

How will I be assessed?

The course consists of a two internally assessed units and two externally assessed units.

50% is external assessment and you will be required to sit 2 exams. Externally assessed units allow you to present what you have learned in the unit. They can be very challenging, but give you the opportunity to demonstrate knowledge and understanding, or your skills in a direct way. This could be an exam or completing a vocational task in a limited timeframe.

The remainder of the qualification is assessed by the school through internal assessments. This involves completing a series of assignments, set and marked by your teachers. The assignments allow you to demonstrate learning in a number of ways, from written reports to a video recording. Each of these tasks are graded as pass, merit or distinction which lead to an overall grading at the end of two years' study when combined with grades from other units.

Is there anything else I need to know?

Taken alongside other qualifications, this course will prepare students for progression to a wider range of degree programmes.

For example:

If taken alongside an A Level in Chemistry, learners can progress to forensic science degree courses.
If taken alongside an A Level in Sociology, learners can progress to criminology courses.

Learners should always check the entry requirements for degree programmes with specific Higher Education providers.

We pride ourselves on a strong, open and honest working relationship between teachers and students. Our students are kept informed of their progress via short topic tests and verbal feedback. We give students ample opportunity to practise their examination technique but also encourage interactive ways of learning and assessment.

Who can I contact for further information?

Director of Science, melliott@kingcharles1.worcs.sch.uk