

BTEC Construction

What do you study?

The core units are:

Unit 1: Construction Technology – this unit covers the different forms of construction that can be used for low-rise offices, retail units and homes. Learners will develop an understanding of the structural performance required for low-rise construction, and explore how substructures and superstructures are constructed. This unit will be externally assessed.

Assessment guidance - This unit is externally assessed using a paper-based exam. The exam is set and marked by Edexcel. The exam lasts for 1 hour and contains 50 marks. The assessment must be taken by the learner under examination conditions.

All questions in the exam paper are compulsory. There will be different types of objective, short answer and extended writing questions. Learners will need to be able to demonstrate the use of sketching techniques.

Unit 2: Construction and Design – in this unit learners will develop a broad understanding of the construction industry, the sort of projects it undertakes and the contribution it makes to wider society. Learners will also look at how client needs can shape the design of a building, and develop their own design ideas to a given brief.

Assessment guidance - This unit is assessed internally by the centre and externally verified by Edexcel. Please read this guidance in conjunction with *Section 8 Internal assessment*. The centre will need to provide an appropriate scenario, which will include a client profile and a proposed site and location. Additionally, the centre will need someone to play the role of the client to select a concept idea and request changes be made to meet their own specific needs and requirements.

The mandatory unit are:

Unit 3: Scientific and Mathematical Applications for Construction – in this unit learners will apply scientific and mathematical knowledge, understanding and skills to practical construction contexts. Learners will develop an understanding of the scientific principles affecting the performance of construction materials and develop skills to perform mathematical calculations in construction contexts.

Assessment guidance - This unit is assessed internally by the centre and externally verified by Edexcel. Please read this guidance in conjunction with *Section 8 Internal assessment*. By the very nature of this unit, it is acceptable for learners to rework their calculations after checking their own work, but it is recommended that reworking is monitored to avoid peer collaboration. Where appropriate, alternative problems could be set to avoid such collaboration.

Unit 6: Exploring Carpentry and Joinery Principles and Techniques - This unit will introduce you to the tools, materials and personal protective equipment

(PPE) used by carpenters and joiners. You will learn about the potential health and safety hazards in a carpentry and joinery work area, how to carry out a risk assessment, and what is safe working practice in the use of common tools and equipment. You will also develop the knowledge, skills and techniques to determine and select appropriate materials to produce a timber frame to a given specification.

Assessment guidance - This unit is assessed internally by the centre and externally verified by Edexcel. Please read this guidance in conjunction with *Section 8 Internal assessment*.

How is the course assessed?

- The exam lasts for 1 hour and contains 50 marks
- NEA Coursework – (75%)

Exam Board link

Edexcel