



Course Title

Exam Board

**Construction BTEC First Award Level 1/2**  
(Equivalent to 1 GCSE)

**Edexcel**

#### Course Description

There is a strong practical aspect to this course. However, students are required to produce a range of written assignments to demonstrate their understanding of the key learning areas. It is designed to introduce students to the range of sectors within the construction industry as well as thinking about sustainable development and understanding scientific and mathematical principles of construction. The practical units we normally cover will introduce students to the sectors of bricklaying and joinery. The practical work is physical and students must be prepared to do manual work in a range of weather conditions. Working as part of a team is also a significant feature and thus students must be willing to help support each other, for example with setting up and clearing away for practical activities.

Note: We are also investigating the possibility of offering a Level 1 Basic Construction Skills Course (City & Guilds), which might be better suited to those with lower Expected Progress Grades. This will require further development and consideration during the period when options are being selected, so if interested in Construction you should pick the BTEC and we will liaise at a later date on which course would be most suited to each student.

#### Type of Assessment

Students have to pass all set units in order to achieve at least a 'Pass' grade for the course. Students complete assignments for each unit which demonstrates their knowledge and understanding of each unit. They may be either written or practical or a combination of both. All units are assessed and graded to produce an overall grade for the qualification to be awarded. Each unit will be awarded a grade of Level 2 Pass, Merit, Distinction or Level 1. The grade achieved in each unit makes up the final grade.

Unit	Core units	Assessment method	GLH
1	Construction Technology	External (1 hour exam)	30
2	Construction and Design	Internal	30
<b>Mandatory units</b>			
3	Scientific and mathematical applications for construction	Internal	30
<b>Optional specialist units (1 minimum)</b>			
6	Exploring carpentry and joinery principles and techniques	Internal	30
7	Exploring brickwork and blockwork principles and techniques	Internal	30
8	Exploring painting and decorating principles and techniques	Internal	30

#### Career and Progression Opportunities

The BTEC Level 2 Certificate gives useful preparation for employment opportunities. It supports progression to further study in general qualifications or vocational training.

#### Further Vocational and Academic Qualifications

Following completion of the BTEC First Certificate in Construction and the Built Environment, successful candidates would be able to apply for college courses to study other construction-related Level 2 vocational qualifications, for example those specialising in Carpentry or Bricklaying. They may also be able to move on directly to a higher level qualification such as a Level 3 BTEC National Certificate in Construction. For those students considering Architecture or any of the other construction-related professions at university (e.g. Civil Engineering, Surveying, Procurement etc.), this course gives a good grounding in practical skills which would build vital knowledge and greater confidence for when they apply to institutions in due course.

#### Link to Syllabus

<http://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/btec-firsts/construction-and-the-built-environment-2013-nqf.html> - then click on specification in the documents box.