

Purpose Statement

Level 2 Award, Certificate and Diploma in Science (RQF)

The primary purpose of this qualification is to prepare you for further learning/training and/or to develop skills in a subject area. If you have an interest in Science but are not ready to work towards a GCSE or a Level 3 Science qualification then this qualification could be appropriate for you. It has been designed to give you the transferable skills required to complete scientific investigations as well as giving you a strong foundation in knowledge across Biology, Chemistry and Physics subjects.

Who is it for?

Learners looking to progress to an academic or vocational qualification in Science at Level 2 or 3

Learners undertaking vocational learning or an apprenticeship that needs Science skills and theory to support their main programme of learning

What does this qualification cover?

For the Level 2 Award, you will be required to complete 10 credits and commit to approximately 100 hours of learning. For the Level 2 Certificate, you will be required to complete 16 credits and commit to approximately 160 hours of learning. For the Level 2 Diploma, you will be required to complete 37 credits and commit to approximately 370 hours of learning.

You will be required to complete a mandatory unit in 'Science Investigations.' This unit requires you to complete a science investigation or experiment and demonstrate using equipment safely and effectively.

Optional units are grouped into Biology, Chemistry and Physics.

The rules of combination require you to complete at least 1 from each unit group to ensure that the curriculum covers 'science' as a whole. The optional units include: Human Physiology; Chemical Reactions; Forces; Energy Use; and Plants.

What are the Entry Requirements?

As there is an expectation for you to produce some written evidence for your portfolio, it is recommended that you be functioning at a minimum of level 1 for written English or working towards this.

There may be exceptions to this and you should discuss any support needs with your tutor/teacher. Some units include mathematical calculations and problem solving. You should discuss the chosen units with your tutor/teacher before starting the programme to ensure they are appropriate for you.

There are no age restrictions for working towards this qualification and no specific prior achievements required.

What are the Progression Opportunities?

The qualification provides a mechanism for you to recognise and develop your skills in Science. Skills in this subject are highly sought after by employers.

The achievement of the qualification will prepare you for progression to the next level of learning in Science. Examples of this include, but are not exclusive to:

- Access to HE Diploma (e.g. combined science; medicine; science and technology)

At the same time, a level 2 qualification can be your passport to other types of learning, for example:

- An Apprenticeship
This is a programme that combines practical training in a job with study. They are available in all types of sectors, from administration to horticulture, engineering to catering. All apprentices must take either Functional Skills English at Level 2 or GCSE English as part of their studies and by achieving the Level 1 qualification you will be able to evidence that you have got the ability to do this.

What are the Assessment Methods?

You will be required to complete a portfolio of evidence to achieve this qualification. This will include a combination of both written work and evidence of practical application.

Who supports this qualification?

This qualification was developed with and supported by a range of education providers, including: Bank View High School; Distance Learning Centre; and The Manchester College.