

# BTEC Nationals

## A guide for students

## BTEC Nationals are:

- Level 3 qualifications designed to provide you with the core knowledge and study skills you will need to progress to higher education or employment.
- The most widely-recognised skills-based qualification for admission to higher education.
- Equivalent in standard to A levels.
- Available in 5 different sizes: ranging from smaller courses designed for study alongside other level 3 qualifications and A levels, to the Extended Certificate: equivalent in size to 3 A levels.
- Valid for UCAS points – see page 12 for details.

**In 2015, 25% of students entering university in England did so with a BTEC\***



\*UCAS Progress Pathways report, January 2016

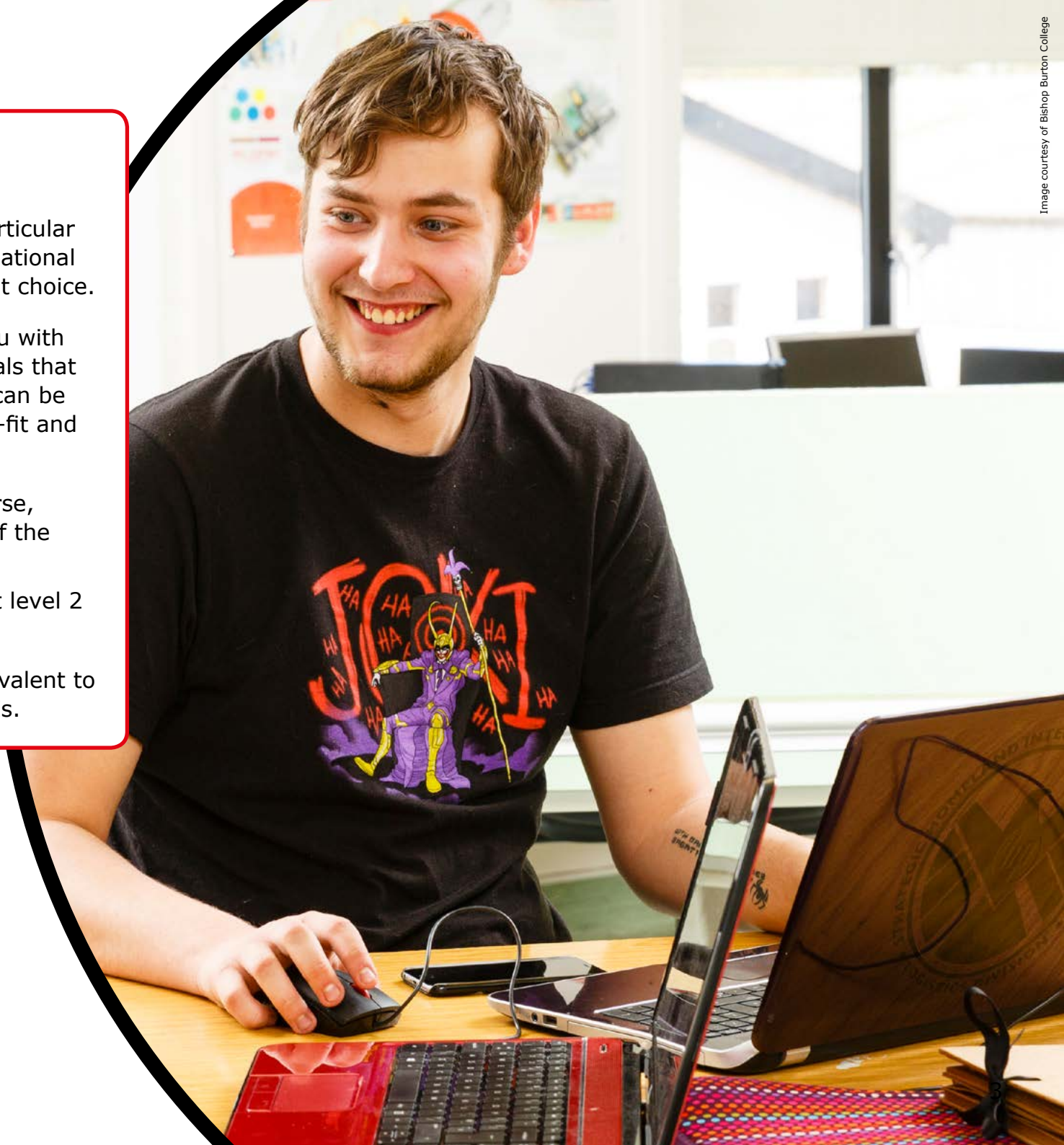
## Who are they for?

If you're 16 or over and have a particular career in mind, including a BTEC National in your study programme is a great choice.

Your BTEC National will provide you with the skills, knowledge and credentials that employers are looking for, so you can be confident that they'll get you work-fit and set for career success.

To do well on a BTEC National course, you're likely to have at least one of the following:

- a BTEC or related qualification at level 2
- relevant work experience
- a general level of education equivalent to at least four A\* to C grade GCSEs.





## Overview of course sizes

You can choose from a range of course sizes, each with a clear purpose supporting progression towards a career or further study.

<b>BTEC National</b>	<b>No. of A levels equivalent to:</b>	<b>GLH</b>
<b>Certificate</b>	0.5	180
<b>Extended Certificate</b>	1	360
<b>Foundation Diploma</b>	1.5	510–540
<b>Diploma</b>	2	720
<b>Extended Diploma</b>	3	1080

Pictured: Yasmin Harris-Boadi, former BTEC Nationals student and current Electrical & Electronic Engineering undergraduate at London South Bank University

## How you'll learn

BTEC courses are practical and hands-on.

Whichever BTEC National you choose, you'll study mandatory units to ensure you have the core skills and knowledge to meet current industry standards and needs.

With the exception of the BTEC National Certificate, you'll also study your choice of optional units, which will allow you to gain specialist experience in the areas that interest you most.

## Employer involvement

In Tech level qualifications, you'll have the opportunity to meet and learn first-hand from professionals working within your chosen industry; giving you valuable insight into what's involved in a career in the sector – not just in theory, but in practice.





## What you'll learn

Course content could include:

- core units covering essential sector knowledge and skills
- optional units focusing on specialist knowledge
- qualification pathways reflecting specialist areas in some sectors

Your BTEC National will also help you to develop your Maths, English and research skills.





## How you'll be assessed

You'll be assessed via a combination of practical and written assignments, tasks and exams.

This style of assessment is designed to help you to:

- Analyse and improve your performance throughout the course.
- Build strong study skills to aid your future learning experiences.
- Showcase your achievements to the best effect when making applications to higher education courses and / or potential employers.
- Feel confident you'll be able to apply your knowledge.



## What you will gain



Hands-on  
experience  
of real-world  
scenarios



Core knowledge  
and understanding  
of the sector



Confidence in  
applying your  
knowledge



Stronger study  
and research  
skills



Transferable  
employability  
skills



Evidence to  
support future  
academic/job  
applications

Pictured: Former BTEC Nationals student  
and Nursing Undergraduate at London  
Southbank University, Joey Mangwi-Smith.



## What you can study:



Agriculture



Animal Management



Applied Science



Applied Law



Art and Design



Business



Children's Play,  
Learning and  
Development



Computing



Construction



Countryside and  
Fish Management



Creative Digital  
Media Production



Engineering



Enterprise and  
Entrepreneurship



Equine  
Management



Forestry and  
Arboriculture



Forensic and Criminal  
Investigation



Health and  
Social Care



Horticulture



Information  
Technology



Marketing



Music



Music Technology



Performing Arts



Production Arts



Retail



Sport



Sport and  
Exercise Science



Travel and Tourism

## Where BTEC Nationals can take you:

### Higher Education

- In 2015, 95% of UK universities and colleges accepted students with BTEC qualifications, including competitive universities from the Russell Group.\*
- 4 out of 5 of BTEC students go on to receive a 1st or 2nd class degree\*\*

**In 2015,  
over 25% of the  
students entering  
university in  
England did so  
with a BTEC\*\*\***

"Over the last few years we have increasingly offered more places to BTEC students, we very much value the skills they bring to the university. Skills such as teamwork, creative thinking and presentation skills, all of which are essential to succeeding at University."

**Professor David Mba, Dean of Engineering  
at London South Bank University, 2016**



\*Which? University 2015

\*\*The outcomes associated with the BTEC route of degree level acquisition, London Economics 2013

\*\*\*UCAS Progression Pathways report, January 2016



## Where BTEC Nationals can take you:

### Employment

Today's employers are looking for confident work-ready candidates who have the practical knowledge, experience and technical skills that BTEC Nationals provide.

With course content developed in consultation with leading UK employers and professional bodies, BTECs are recognised as valuable qualifications by most key industries.

Whichever subject you choose, your BTEC National will help you to build the employability skills and confidence you'll need to thrive throughout your career.

**Level 3 BTECs  
can boost your  
lifetime earnings  
by £92,000\***

**"BTEC students have the skills that  
today's employers are looking for."**

**Peter Jones CBE, Entrepreneur**



## Applying for university

Your BTEC National will qualify for the following UCAS Tariff points in applications submitted from 2017 admissions onwards:

BTEC National Certificate (180)	
D*	28
D	24
M	16
P	8

BTEC National Extended Certificate (360)	
D*	56
D	48
M	32
P	16

BTEC National Foundation Diploma (510–540)	
D*	84
D	72
M	48
P	24

BTEC National Diploma (720)	
D*D*	112
D*D	104
DD	96
DM	80
MM	64
MP	48
PP	32

BTEC National Extended Diploma (1080)	
D*D*D*	168
D*D*D	160
D*DD	152
DDD	144
DDM	128
DMM	112
MMM	96
MMP	80
MPP	64
PPP	48

Your academic qualifications will qualify for the following UCAS Tariff points:

A level	
A*	56
A	48
B	40
C	32
D	24
E	16

AS	
A	20
B	16
C	12
D	10
E	6



## BTEC Nationals success stories



**Connor Thomas**

**Studied: BTEC Higher National in Interactive Media**

The talented winner of our BTEC Student of the Year award in 2014, Connor is now working as a professional 3D Artist whilst he completes his degree at The University of South Wales.



**Kirsty Fishwick**

**Studied: BTEC National in Enterprise and Entrepreneurship**

Our BTEC Business & Enterprise Student of the Year in 2013, Kirsty has recently graduated with a 1st Class BA Honours degree in Business and Management from Durham University.



**Mohamed Mohamed**

**Studied: BTEC National in Sport at Kingston College**

Having graduated with a degree in Sports Science from Exeter University, Mohamed Mohamed now works as a Football Coach at Highgate School and Chelsea FC's Chelsea Foundation.



**Over 1 million students  
in the UK choose BTEC  
each year. Will you?**

Read more BTEC success stories  
and choose the right BTEC  
National for you at:

**[ichooseBTEC.com](https://www.ichooseBTEC.com)**



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