



AAQ Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Medical Science

Location	Cheadle College
Course Type	College 16-18
Department	A Levels
Start Date	Monday 1st September 2025
Course Code	CFQ-CL3S-1100

Course Overview

This course is designed to reflect the demands of a truly modern and evolving medical science industry which enables students to apply themselves and gives them the skills to succeed in their chosen pathway.

The qualification is designed to be taken alongside A levels as part of a study programme and can link to learning in A level subjects such as chemistry, psychology and sociology. It is intended for students that wish to progress into higher education as a pathway to employment.

Course Requirements

5 x GCSE grade 5's or above (must include Maths and English Language).

What You Will Learn

This course enables students to study the principles and applications of medical science through three mandatory units, and further explore other areas in more detail via an optional unit. Students will also learn practical and investigation skills that build on this fundamental knowledge.

Assessment

Assessment includes a range of assessment types and styles suited to vocational qualifications in the sector. There are three main forms of assessment that you need to be aware of: external, internal and synoptic.

Externally-assessed units

Each assessment is taken under specified conditions, then marked by Pearson and a grade awarded.

Internally-assessed units

Internally-assessed units are assignment based activities where evidence is produced by the student and marked by their teachers.

Synoptic assessment

Synoptic assessment requires students to demonstrate that they can identify and use effectively, in an integrated way, an appropriate selection of skills, techniques, concepts, theories and knowledge from across the whole sector as relevant to a key task.

Progression

Students completing their BTEC Nationals in Applied Science will be aiming to go on to employment, often via the stepping stone of higher education degree courses or a degree apprenticeship.

Learners develop the transferable and higher order skills which are valued by higher education providers and employers. Progression into careers such as engineering, psychology, health and social care, nursing, exercise science.

The qualification can be taken as part of a diverse programme, leaving progression options fully open. It can also give context to subjects which would benefit from some scientific background. This will depend on the combination of qualifications chosen. For example, taken alongside:

A Level in Psychology, Chemistry and Sociology

Students should always check the entry requirements for degree programmes with specific higher education providers

Career Options

The core and specialist medical science knowledge, understanding and skills that students develop create a good foundation for transition to related degrees.

This qualification can lead to progression to the following degrees:

- BSc (Hons) Psychology
- BSc (Hons) Physiotherapy
- BSc (Hons) Nursing (Adult Health/Child Health/Mental Health)

Mandatory Units

The mandatory units cover the following areas:

- Human anatomy, physiology and pathology
- Health issues and scientific reporting
- Practical microbiology and infectious diseases.

The optional units provide opportunity for students to choose one of the following specific specialist area in which they wish to develop their knowledge and skills:

- Diseases, disorders, treatments and therapies
- Biomedical science
- Human reproduction and fertility

Contact Details

For further information please contact T: 0161 886 7070 or E: info@trafford.ac.uk

Disclaimer

Although every care has been taken to ensure that the information contained within this document is accurate, there may be changes to this programme and provision. We will endeavour to keep prospective and current students updated where appropriate and when the information becomes available.