BTEC Level 2 First Award in Construction and the Built Environment

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Why study BTEC Level 2 First Award in Construction and the Built Environment?
The construction industry makes up a large part of the UK economy and many companies within it are looking to recruit young people who have a broad knowledge and understanding of the construction industry. These students also need to be willing to develop skills and be eager to continue their learning within a wide range of junior roles across the workforce.

What does the course involve?
This course has been developed to provide an introduction to the construction industry; it includes both theory and practical work. The 2 core units form the fundamental knowledge, skills and understanding of construction technology and design; the mandatory unit assesses additional knowledge, understanding and skills that are essential to the construction sector. The final unit is selected from the practical work students undertake in carpentry and joinery, bricklaying or painting and decorating.

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

Unit 2 - *Construction and Design* – In this unit students will develop a broad understanding of the construction industry, the sort of projects it undertakes, and the contribution it makes to wider society. Students will also look at how client needs can shape the design of a building, and develop their own design ideas to a given brief. (Internally assessed)

Mandatory Unit:
Unit 3 - ***Scientific and Mathematical Applications for Construction*** – In this unit students will apply scientific and mathematical knowledge, understanding and skills to practical construction contexts. Students will develop an understanding of the scientific principles affecting the performance of construction materials, and develop skills to perform mathematical calculations in construction contexts. (Internally assessed)

Practical Units:
Students will develop their knowledge of the principles and techniques used in specific areas of the construction industry. Each unit includes theory work which supports the tools, equipment, materials, health and safety aspects required for students to produce their own piece of practical work. Students will also get the chance to undertake practical experience in roofing, tiling and plumbing.

Unit 5 - Exploring Carpentry and Joinery Principles and Techniques (Internally assessed)

How will I be assessed?
Students will be required to complete both practical and written tasks to demonstrate their ability and understanding of the construction industry. Most of the course will be internally assessed by the teaching staff and a sample of students' work will be selected by the examination board. For unit(s) where there are external assessment(s) there will be a 1-hour long examination under controlled conditions.

Additional Information
Students will be expected to take part in theory and practical activities as well as follow health & safety rules and wear appropriate protective equipment when required.