

Level 3 Alternative Academic Qualification (AAQ) in Medical Science (Extended Certificate)

Why study this subject?

The main purpose of the qualification is to provide learners with the knowledge, understanding and skills in key scientific principles to support progress to higher education or employment in areas of Medical Science, such as job roles in physiological sciences or clinical laboratory services. The qualification covers the key topic areas of health, physiology and disease, as well as providing the opportunity to study the areas of pharmacology, physiological measurement, clinical testing and medical research. **This course is equivalent to one A Level.**

Entry Requirements

Please see the entry requirements page on the school website.

Content

To achieve the Level 3 Diploma in Medical Science learners are required to complete 6 units:

- Human health and disease
- Physiological measurement techniques
- Medical Science research methods
- Medicines and treatment of disease
- Clinical laboratory techniques
- Medical case study

Assessment

Assessment consists of three external examinations and three internal assessed units

Future courses and possible careers

This qualification aims to equip learners with scientific knowledge and understanding, as well as practical skills that would support progression to a range of job roles within health care or life sciences. Job roles could include carrying out a range of laboratory and scientific tests to support the diagnosis and treatment of disease, microscopic examination of tissue samples, analysis of blood cells to investigate anaemia or



analysis of samples to identify the cause of an infection. Alternatively, there would also be opportunities to progress to job roles within the physiological sciences, working directly with patients, measuring and evaluating organs and systems, such as scientists working in neurophysiology recording the electrical activity in the brain. A significant proportion of career opportunities in this sector are at degree level. When supported by other appropriate qualifications, the Level 3 Diploma in Medical Science will enable progression to higher education to a range of Applied Science programmes, such as biomedical science, life sciences, and physiology.

Please note: This course is highly unlikely to meet UCAS entrance criteria for Medicine.