

## **SUBJECT: BTEC National Travel and Tourism**

QUALIFICATION: BTEC National Award in Travel and Tourism

QUALIFICATION LEVEL: Level 3

QUALIFICATION TYPE: BTEC National Award

AWARDING BODY: Edexcel

CATEGORY: Travel and Tourism

Qualification Accreditation Number (QAN): 500/1116/9

### **DESCRIPTION**

The 6 unit BTEC National Award offers a specialist qualification that focuses on particular aspects of employment within the Travel and Tourism sector as well as providing a broader knowledge of aspects of the industry which could be applied to other areas such as Events Management. The BTEC National Award is a qualification which can extend a learner's programme of study and provide vocational emphasis for learners following an Applied GCE or GCE route or a combination of both in their main programme of study. The BTEC National Award is especially suitable for students who enjoy completing assignment work across the course of a two year programme where work can be developed and improved to allow students to achieve their full potential based within an employment sector which is one of the largest in the UK.

### **WHAT WILL I LEARN?**

Over the course of a two year programme students will complete four compulsory units and two optional units which when combined will form the basis of the qualification award. The four compulsory units are:

**Investigating Travel and Tourism** (looks at the structure of the industry)

**The Business of Travel and Tourism** (looks how travel organisations are run and organised)

**The UK as a Destination** (looks at aspects of UK travel and tourist destinations)

**Customer Service in Travel and Tourism** (looks at the importance, provision and evaluation of customer service within travel and tourism organisations)

As well as these compulsory units, an additional two optional units are studied which cover aspects such as worldwide travel destinations, employment practice within the industry and how travel agents and providers operate. Decisions will be made as to which of the optional units will be followed once group sizes and interests are known at the start of the academic year.

### **WHAT ARE THE ENTRY REQUIREMENTS?**

Students intending to study travel and tourism are expected to have five good

GCSEs at C grade or above. It will not have been necessary to have studied Travel and Tourism at Key Stage 4 as the material being delivered will assume that students have no knowledge of the sector in order to build up their expertise.

### **HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?**

All units completed contribute to the overall grade for the qualification. The qualification is awarded out of Pass, Merit and Distinction grades which are roughly equivalent to grades E, C and A at A2 level. All units are assessed through a coursework portfolio and there are no examinations that are sat at any stage of the course. The overall final grade is made up of the achievements of all units collated together.

### **WHAT ARE THE COSTS?**

In terms of financial cost there may be trips and study visits organised in order to supplement the work that is taking place within each unit being studied. In terms of time costs it is expected that students are constantly working on portfolios throughout the duration of the course in order to achieve the best possible mark for each unit completed. This would therefore mean studying and completing work away from lessons in order to meet the regular deadlines that would be put in place.

### **FUTURE OPPORTUNITIES?**

Through studying Travel and Tourism students use this to either move directly into working within the sector or completing degrees in this and other related areas. Students have applied for and are undertaking degrees in Business, Event Management and Tourism Destination Management on a regular basis. Students choosing the employment route have gone into junior management level within travel agents, hotels and similar organisations on a regular basis.

### **FURTHER INFORMATION**

For further information contact the Heads of Business Studies at either Pensby High School for Girls or Hilbre High School. Alternatively information about the qualification can be found at the following internet address:

<http://www.edexcel.com/quals/nat/travel/travel/Pages/default.aspx>

Feel free to contact us at any time with regards to this course.