

Medical Science



Exam Board: WJEC

The WJEC level 3 applied diploma is a practical, work-related course. Students learn by completing assignments that are based on realistic workplace situations, activities and demands. It is equivalent to one A level.

Minimum Entry Requirements

- A minimum of 6 A* to C grades at GCSE (or equivalent).
- Students should have **CB** grades (or above) in double science with at least two papers being sat at higher tier, or **B C C** grades (or above) on the separate sciences (again at least two of the three papers at higher tier).
- Students should also have C grades in Maths/Numeracy and English.
- A strong work ethic, good time management and independent learning skills are very desirable characteristics.

If you have any questions, please contact Mr A Cummings (Head of Department)

Course content and assessment

The course is split into 6 units spread across the two-year course.

Unit 1 – Human health and disease.

Unit 2 – Physiological measurement techniques.

Unit 3 – Medical research methods.

Unit 4 – Medicines and treatment of disease.

Unit 5 – Clinical laboratory techniques.

Unit 6 – Medical case studies.

How the course is assessed

Unit 1 is an externally sat exam paper that accounts for 25% of the overall grade. Units 2, 3 and 4 are assignment based, marked internally by staff and moderated by the exam board. They have a 50% weighting in total. Unit 5 is an externally marked assignment with a 12.5% weighting. Unit 6 is an externally sat exam paper that accounts for the final 12.5% of the overall grade. Each of the exam papers has a pre-release element where the students will receive information in the weeks prior to the exam and will prepare in lessons for the specific content they will be asked questions on.

Grading

The course follows a similar grading pattern to traditional A levels, grades are awarded from E-A* at the end of the course based on how many marks (UMS) are achieved across each unit. The 'Near pass' ruling allows pupils who have not done as well as expected in a particular unit to still achieve a high overall grade by doing well in the other five units.

Career Opportunities

Students who opt for and complete this course will probably have a keen interest in biology, the life sciences and experimental design. Likely career opportunities may be in the fields of life science, biomedical science, physiological sciences or neurophysiology, to name just a few.