



# An introduction to our Level 3 Applied General qualifications

Giving learners the  
knowledge and skills  
for higher apprenticeships,  
university or employment

Find out more about our Applied Generals at:  
[aqa.org.uk/applied-general](https://aqa.org.uk/applied-general)

**AQA**   
Realising potential

# Applied General qualifications from a name you can trust

## Why choose our Applied Generals?

Developed in collaboration with teachers, learned societies and higher education institutions, these qualifications will help learners to develop the fundamental knowledge and practical skills that are valued in universities and the world of work.

These broad vocational qualifications are ideal for studying alongside A-levels in support of 16–18 Study Programmes and are supported by universities.

The qualification structure also enables effective curriculum planning and delivery – a combination of mandatory and optional units underpinned by compensatory internally assessment.

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Our Applied General qualifications attract UCAS tariff points and are included in the DfE 16-19 performance tables [UCAS tariff points](#) and are included in the [DfE 16-19 performance tables](#).

“We’ve worked with employers, professional bodies and universities from the very start, so each qualification will open doors for learners, whether they choose to go straight into the workplace, a higher apprenticeship or university.”

**Andrew Hall**  
Chief Executive  
AQA

# Level 3 Applied General qualifications available

## Level 3 Applied Generals

These vocational qualifications offer a practical alternative to A-levels in business and science. Both subjects include clear pathways to further study and employment.

- **Certificate in Applied Business** (180 GLH)
- **Extended Certificate in Applied Business** (360 GLH)
- **Certificate in Applied Science** (180 GLH)
- **Extended Certificate in Applied Science** (360 GLH).



# Applied General qualifications in Business and Science

## Level 3 Certificate (180 GLH) and Extended Certificate in Applied Business (360 GLH)

Learners will:

- enjoy the emphasis on entrepreneurship and the realism of the qualification
- fully apply their learning in relation to practical and integrated units of assessment
- benefit from new and current subjects including event management and e-business modules.

Learners can progress to the Extended Certificate (360 GLH) when they have completed the Certificate (180 GLH).

The 180 Certificate covers key areas of business entrepreneurship, the Extended Certificate covers a broader skillset and enables the learner to begin to practically realise their business ideas.

### This qualification is supported by organisations including:

- Institute of Enterprise and Entrepreneurs (IOEE)
- Young Enterprise
- Leeds Beckett University
- University of Bath
- University of Liverpool
- Birmingham City University.

Find out more

Visit [aqa.org.uk/appliedbusiness](http://aqa.org.uk/appliedbusiness)

## Level 3 Certificate (180 GLH) and Extended Certificate in Applied Science (360 GLH)

Learners will:

- practice experimental scientific techniques and explore how they are applied in industry
- develop their knowledge and understanding of a broad range of concepts in biology, chemistry and physics
- have the opportunity to plan and carry out a scientific investigation of their own choosing
- explore the way in which topical scientific issues are presented in the media
- investigate the many roles of scientists and the different career pathways open to them
- use the optional unit to decide on the scientific pathway they wish to follow.

Learners can progress to the Extended Certificate (360 GLH) when they have completed the Certificate (180 GLH).

### This qualification is supported by The Association for Science Education.

Find out more

Visit [aqa.org.uk/appliedscience](http://aqa.org.uk/appliedscience)

“Core content is excellent. Nothing but commendation in the approach... linking the learning back to the business planning unit.”

**Dr Kerry Sullivan**

University of Surrey, referring to the Marketing communications unit

# Free support and materials

We've worked closely with employers, higher education institutes and tutors to create support materials that you'll find useful and inspiring – they'll also help you hit the ground running.

Each resource will help you with a specific aspect – either planning your lessons, delivery or preparing your learners for exams or assignments.

Our free support includes:

- sample schemes of work for every unit
- direct access to our subject and curriculum experts
- delivery models to support curriculum planning
- specimen question papers and mark schemes
- sample assignment briefs
- specific subject pages to access bespoke resources.

If you have any queries email [business-studies@aqa.org.uk](mailto:business-studies@aqa.org.uk) or [alevelscience@aqa.org.uk](mailto:alevelscience@aqa.org.uk) or call **01483 477756**.

# Clear assessment and marking you can trust

Our new qualifications are a combination of internally and externally assessed units. Internally assessed units are assessed by centre-devised tasks or assignments; externally assessed units are set and marked by us.

Our qualifications are graded using very clear and unambiguous grading criteria, designed to ensure that teachers and internal assessors are confident in their judgements.

The criteria have been developed in consultation with employers, professional bodies and higher education to ensure that learners are always being assessed in a meaningful and relevant manner.

# We're here to help

If you have any queries or if you'd like to become a centre, email [business-studies@aqa.org.uk](mailto:business-studies@aqa.org.uk) or [alevelscience@aqa.org.uk](mailto:alevelscience@aqa.org.uk) or call **01483 477756**.

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# Centre approval

In order to become an approved assessment centre for Applied General qualifications, you must apply for approval from AQA.

Centres can be schools, professional institutions, colleges of further or higher education, private companies or any other organisation which has the infrastructure in place to support the delivery, assessment and internal quality assurance of the qualifications. For more information visit the AQA website pages ([aqa.org.uk/exams-administration/exams-office-support/become-an-aqa-centre](https://aqa.org.uk/exams-administration/exams-office-support/become-an-aqa-centre)) and follow the instructions on how to become an AQA centre.