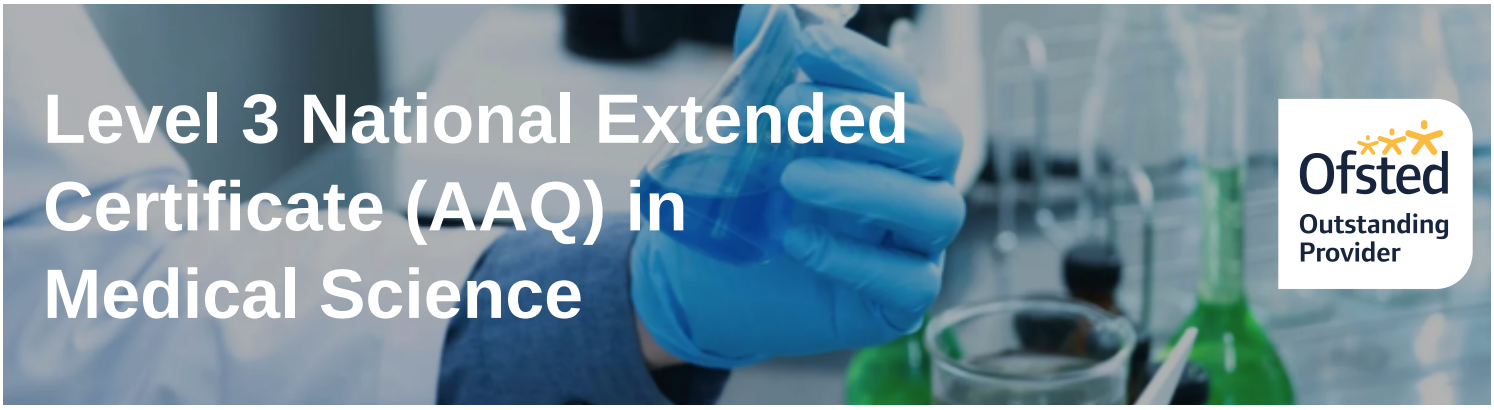

Level 3 National Extended Certificate (AAQ) in Medical Science

Ofsted Outstanding Provider

Course Level: Level 3 | **Campus: Stafford** | **Subject Type: Science & Maths**

Course Overview:

The Pearson Level 3 Alternative Academic Qualification (AAQ) in Medical Science is designed for students interested in human health, disease, healthcare and medical research. Equivalent in size to one A Level, the qualification combines scientific theory with practical laboratory skills and provides an excellent foundation for progression to Higher Education and careers within the health and life sciences sectors.

This course is designed to be studied alongside two other A levels and combines particularly well with Psychology and Sport. It is ideal for students interested in healthcare, biomedical science and related professions.

What's Covered:

The Pearson Level 3 National Extended Certificate (AAQ) in Medical Science provides an in-depth study of the principles and applications of medical science. Throughout this two-year course, you will explore three mandatory units along with one optional unit in a specialist area. This qualification builds fundamental knowledge while developing practical and investigative skills through internal and external assessments.

If you are passionate about science, enjoy laboratory work, and have a keen interest in critical thinking and problem-solving, this course will be particularly beneficial.

Course Content

- Human Physiology, Anatomy, and Pathology: Explore human body systems, cell ultrastructure, and the transport of substances within the body.
- Health Issues and Scientific Reporting: Study the immune system, its dysfunctions, and advancements in genetic technologies. Learn how to assess the validity and reliability of information in health science reporting.
- Practical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases: Understand infectious agents, methods of pathogenicity, and microbial growth, while ensuring health and safety in a laboratory environment.

Optional Unit

- Human Reproduction and Fertility: Investigate reproductive science, the causes of infertility, and their impacts on health and well-being.

This course is ideal for students looking to develop essential skills and knowledge for further studies or careers in medical science and related fields.

BRAND NEW COURSE

Entry Requirements:

A minimum of 5 GCSEs at grade 5 and above including Maths and English Language. Preferably, with a grade 6 in Biology or 6/5 in combined Science.

Assessment Information:

Assessment is through a combination of externally assessed examinations and internally assessed coursework. Students will complete assessment activities based on human physiology, health issues, scientific reporting, microbiology and medical science investigations, providing opportunities to demonstrate both theoretical understanding and practical application of scientific knowledge.

Fees and Financial Support:

This course is free for anyone aged 16 – 18.

College Maintenance Allowance (CMA):

Anyone with a gross household income under £35,000 can receive financial support to cover college related costs such as transport, meals, course equipment and uniform. Bursary support is based on individual circumstances and will be allocated to best suit your individual needs. A range of other financial support is available depending on your personal circumstances. For more details visit nscg.ac.uk/finance

Progression:

(AAQ) Medical Science can lead to a pathway or career in the health sector. Example career options include Nursing, Physiotherapist or Psychologist.

What else do I need to know?

This course will need to be studied either:

- alongside 2 A Levels that complement this subject e.g. PE, Chemistry or Psychology.
- or combined with the Diploma in Applied Science (2 A Level equivalent) as part of the Vocational Pathway in Science.

Think of what you're capable of. Then think beyond it.

Step up to a top university or move into a competitive programme like Medicine or Law with our Honours Programme. Perfect for ambitious and high-achieving students.

The Honours Programme is an additional pathway for students whose aspirations are to progress onto highly competitive courses at top universities, such as those in the Russell Group. Once accepted onto the programme, you'll be expected to commit extra time every week to this intensive support pathway.

Find out more
here

How do I find out more?

If you wish to find out more you can contact James Walker, Course Leader at james.walker@nscg.ac.uk