

Subject: *BTEC National Diploma in Forensic and Criminal Investigation*

Exam Board: *Pearson*

Welcome to BTEC Forensic and Criminal Investigation. We are delighted that you are considering this BTEC as an option in Year 12 and 13.

What is Forensic and Criminal Investigation?

The BTEC Forensic and Criminal Investigation course is for learners who want to continue their education through applied learning. It provides a vocational context in which learners can develop the knowledge and transferable skills required for employment within the Forensic science service. These include; reading scientific and technical texts, effective writing, analytical skills and practical skills.

The course will cover: collecting evidence and analysing a crime scene, preparing evidence for court, analysing DNA profiles and criminal theories

Skills you will have learnt upon completion:

- How to research, present and reference an extended piece of written work
- How to be competent and confident when carrying out practical skills both in a laboratory and in a crime scene house
- How to analyse and present forensic evidence
- How to evaluate the different theories on criminal behaviour

Learning Objectives:

1. Learn what constitutes a crime, the British legal system, and some of the laws governing Criminal Investigation and how to produce a fully referenced research task.
2. Carry out practical work to show how forensic evidence can be collected and analysed

Transition tasks to be completed:

To demonstrate your commitment to the course and prepare you for September, you must complete the following compulsory tasks by **Friday 15th July**. We expect

you spend at least 3-4 hours completing the tasks outlined in this pack and will help you to begin to develop some of the key skills you will need:

Task 1: To give you an introduction into DNA databases and so that you understand their history, please watch the ITV drama 'Code of a Killer'. This can be found on ITV catchup via the ITVx app. This drama portrays the police investigation into the rape and murder of two teenage girls. Colin Pitchfork was eventually imprisoned for these crimes and he became the first person to be convicted using DNA evidence. Once you have watched the drama you will need to write a typed report of at least one page. You should include the following in the report:

- A brief description of the case
- An introduction into the work of Alec Jefferies
- An explanation of how the investigation unfolded to use DNA testing
- How Colin Pitchfork was eventually caught

Task 2: To prepare you for writing up fully reference course work, please complete a fully referenced research task on criminal and civil law, the British legal system and the legal framework covering criminal investigations.

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