1. Examination board and course title:
BTEC Level 3 National Diploma in Art and Design
Pearson (EDEXCEL)
2. Course overview

The creative industries form an important part of the UK economy and are respected internationally. The industries are worth £9.6 million an hour to the economy, which is approximately £84.1 billion per year. Art and design education provides training and support for occupations in the creative industries such as designers, artists, photographers and museum and gallery staff.

The qualification provides the knowledge, understanding and skills that will prepare students for further study or training. Everyone taking this qualification will study six mandatory units, covering the following content areas:

- technical and conceptual skills – developed through practical projects
- visual communication of ideas
- solving creative problems through experimenting with materials, techniques and processes
- using various tools and materials to realise ideas
- developing an art and design project portfolio – to showcase interests
- PLUS 2 specialist units such as Fine Art, Textiles or 3D design.
3. Assessment outline

720 GLH (965 TQT)
- Equivalent in size to two A Levels.
- 8 units including two externally set and moderated units
- Internally set assignments are designed to combine units where appropriate
- All units have 4 assessment objectives and are graded, pass, merit or distinction

**Mandatory Units:**
- Visual Recording and Communication
  - External set assignment
- Critical and Contextual Studies in Art & Design
  - External set assignment
- The Creative Process
  - Internally set brief
- Materials, Techniques & Processes in Art & Design
  - Internally set brief
- Developing an Art & Design Portfolio
  - Internally set brief
- Developing and Realising Creative Intentions
  - External set assignment

**Optional Units:**
- Textiles Materials, Techniques and Processes
  - Internally set brief
- Fine Art Materials, Techniques and Processes
  - Internally set brief
4. Entry Requirements
No prior study of the sector is needed, but students should normally have a range of achievement at level 2, in GCSEs or equivalent qualifications.

Career Pathways
When combined with other qualifications within a two-year study programme, such as AS/A levels or another BTEC National Extended Certificate, students can progress into higher education. The qualification carries UCAS points and is recognised by higher education providers as meeting admission requirements to many relevant courses in the creative sector.

This qualification is designed primarily to support progression to employment following further study at university. However, it will also give students the knowledge and understanding required to apply for a range of direct entry level roles, primarily alongside an apprenticeship in areas such as fashion, photography or crafts.