Maelor Sixth



Forensic & Criminal Investigation Pearson Level 3 FD

Subject Leader: Mrs L Chesworth

Introduction

The Pearson Level 3 Foundation Diploma in Forensic and Criminal Investigation is designed for students who wish to pursue higher education or employment in forensic science, policing, criminology, and psychology. It blends rigorous laboratory-based science with practical investigative practices.

The Course

The curriculum spans multiple disciplines to replicate the realistic time-line of a mock criminal investigation:

- **Principles and Applications of Science**: Core instruction covering essential concepts in biology, chemistry, and physics.
- **Practical Scientific Procedures & Techniques**: Hands-on laboratory tasks including titration, chromatography, colorimetry, and microscopy.
- **Forensic Investigation Procedures in Practice**: Navigating the legal frameworks, intelligence-gathering techniques, and agency collaboration required to secure convictions.
- **Science Investigation Skills**: Learning how to plan, carry out, analyse and evaluate scientific investigations.
- **Specialist Options**: Depending on the institution, modules can include Environmental Forensics or Forensic Anthropology and Archaeology.

Assessment

60% Coursework: Portfolio work, written assignment reports, and practical laboratory logs graded by tutors.

40% External Examination: Set examinations and practical scientific data-analysis tasks mapped and marked directly by Pearson.

Entry Requirement

GCSE grade C/4 in Science, English and Maths.

Further Information

This specification develops skills in the following three main categories:

- **cognitive and problem-solving skills**: using critical thinking, approaching non-routine problems applying expert and creative solutions, using systems and technology

- **interpersonal skills**: communicating, working collaboratively, negotiating and influencing

- **intra-personal skills**: self-management, adaptability and resilience, self-monitoring and development, self-presentation.



Links to Future Careers

The requirements of the qualification will mean learners develop the transferable and higher-order skills that are highly regarded by both higher education and employers. Skills include carrying out practical laboratory tasks, planning investigations, evaluating case studies/sources of information to draw arguments together and produce forensic reports for use in court hearings.

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