

General Enquiries

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Level 3 Access to HE Diploma (Science)

Location	Stockport College
Course Type	University level
Department	Access to Higher Education
Start Date	Monday 7th September 2026
Duration	Full-time, 1 Year
Time	-
Fee	£ 3384.00 You may be eligible for support with your tuition fees - please visit the college website - funding and finance page for further information
Course Code	SFP-AH3D-1200

Course Overview

This course is designed to prepare mature students for university level study in a range of disciplines including Physics, Chemistry, Maths, Pharmacy and Environmental Science. If you want to progress onto a science-based programme at Higher Education level, this course will give you the ideal introduction to the subject.

In 2022-23, 96.5% of students on our Access diplomas secured offers of university places. This compares with a progression rate of just 55.4% across all Access diploma courses in England and Wales.

The course runs for an academic year and you will be in college three days per week for 32 weeks. You will be attending for 13 hours per week (12 hours of lessons and 1 hour of tutorial). You will also need to allow at least 12 hours per week for private study and assignment completion.

Approximate times: 9.20am - 3pm (exact times to be confirmed)

Course Requirements

This course requires you to have achieved GCSE English Language Maths and Science at grade C/4 or better before enrolling on the Access Diploma.

If you don't meet the entry requirements, don't worry. You can apply for our level 2 pre-Access course which will prepare you for the Access to Higher Education Course. You can also work towards achieving your GCSE Maths, English or Science at the same time.

The pathway will run subject to minimum numbers being reached.

What You Will Learn

On this Access Diploma, you will study a combination of Chemistry and Physics, plus either Human Biology or Maths. The choice of optional module will depend on your intended progression route for Higher Education study.

In addition, you will complete a module of ungraded Developmental units, which are designed to develop the academic and study skills you need to be a success, not only on the Access Diploma, but also in your future university-level studies.

Assessment

Assessments include essays, practical reports, case studies, open or closed-book examinations and verbal, visual or IT-based presentations. All modules will include an element of time-constrained assessment which will contribute towards the final module grade. Upon successful completion of this course you will be awarded an Access to Higher Education Diploma from Open Awards

Progression

Most university admissions tutors will accept the Access to HE Diploma as an entry qualification for Higher Education, but there may be some degrees for which this certificate alone may not be acceptable. The suitability of the course for your ultimate career aim will be discussed at interview.

Progression from this pathway can be on to degree programmes such as Chemistry, Physics, Maths, Pharmacy, Microbiology, Biomedical Sciences, Chemical Engineering, Dentistry, Geology and many more.

Career Options

Students can progress onto an array of science and maths related degree courses, such as Chemistry, Physics, Maths, Pharmacy, Microbiology, Biomedical Sciences, Chemical Engineering, Dentistry, Geology, Palaeontology & Evolution and many more. what they choose to specialise in will determine possible careers following on from a degree

Mandatory Units

Physics and Chemistry.

Contact Details

For further information please contact T: 0161 886 7070 or E: info@trafford.ac.uk

Disclaimer

Although every care has been taken to ensure that the information contained within this document is accurate, there may be changes to this programme and provision. We will endeavour to keep prospective and current students updated where appropriate and when the information becomes available.