

BTEC Health and Social Care

Tier 3

Course description:

This is a two year vocational course which aims to give you an opportunity to gain a nationally recognised A level equivalent qualification that will enable you to seek employment in the health or social care sectors. You will develop a detailed understanding in such areas as: effective communication in health and social care settings; equality, diversity and rights in health and social care; anatomy physiology; physiological disorders and health, safety and security.

Qualifications required:

- In line with the entry requirements for a Tier 3 subject.
- For pupils who have studied Health and Social Care at Level 2, a minimum Merit grade is required.

Aims of the course:

- Health & Social Care is a practical, work-related course. You learn by completing projects and assignments that are based on realistic workplace situations, activities and demands.
- You will complete six coursework modules over the two years of the course. This work is internally assessed by tutors and externally validated by the awarding body.
- There are no examinations.

Future prospects:

This course is particularly relevant for those students who wish to enter, or have a strong interest in health and social care fields including nursing, midwifery, nursery work, social work and allied professions such as the police or the probation service. It can also be used to apply for degrees at university such as nursing and social work.

Student feedback:

“The mixture of practical and academic knowledge means that I know what I am talking about when it comes to jobs and university choices.”

“It is exciting finding out just what happens in the world of health and social care and the impact I can make.”

Subject Teachers:

Head of Subject: Mr. A Smith-Martin

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Features of the course:

Although assessment is by coursework and projects some will be based on work experience to visits to Health and social care providers. It is a good balance of the academic and practical, giving students a wide perspective of the issues that they study.

AS Level Units

Unit 1 - Developing Effective Communication in Health and Social Care

This unit explores and develops the skills of effective interpersonal interaction and communication essential to the operation of health and social care services. The unit will:

- analyse factors that enhance and inhibit communication
- examine effective interpersonal skills
- examine the value of varied types & styles of communication in the support of patients or service users

Unit 2 - Equality, Diversity and Rights in Health and Social Care

This unit investigates how equality, diversity and rights are central to the effective operation of health and social care services. It explores:

- discriminatory practice and its potential effects on patients and/or other service users;
- the promotion of anti-discriminatory practice by legislation and codes of practice; and
- the application of this to the health or social care workplace.

Unit 4 – Development Through the Life Stages

This unit aims to enable learners to gain knowledge and understanding of the different stages throughout the human lifespan. Learners will be able to:

- develop an understanding of both the physical and psychological
- changes of ageing
- to apply theories of ageing to health and social care provision.

A2 Level Units

Unit 3 – Health and Safety in Health and Social Care

This unit is to introduce learners to health, safety and security issues in the health and social care workplace. It will encourage them to:

- reflect on potential hazards and how the risk from these may be reduced
- explore relevant legislation and guidelines
- to promote a safer working environment.

Unit 5 – Fundamentals of Anatomy and Physiology

This unit aims to enable learners to understand aspects of the anatomy and physiology of human body systems. Learners will be able to:

- understand the overview of the organisation of the human body
- analysing how body systems work together to provide energy for the body
- investigate how homeostatic mechanisms operate in the body.

Unit 14 – Physiological Disorders

This unit aims to develop learners understanding of the nature of physiological disorders. They will also be able to:

- gain knowledge about the diagnosis and treatment of physiological disorders
- to produce care pathways
- an understanding of strategies to support individuals with particular disorders.

Methods of Assessment:

Health and Social Care assignments over six modules.
There are no examinations.