

Introduction

The number and variety of careers in the health and social care sectors have increased greatly and will continue to do so. There is a growing demand for qualified people to work in the Health and Social Care services. There are job opportunities in Nursing, Paramedical professions, Occupational Therapy and Podiatry in addition to a variety of social work settings – but to name a few.

The BTEC Nationals in Health and Social Care have been developed in the health and social care sectors to focus on:

- giving learners the opportunity to gain a nationally recognised vocationally specific qualification to enter employment in the health and social care sectors or to progress to higher education vocational qualifications such as the Edexcel Level 5 BTEC Higher National in Health and Social Care
- giving learners the opportunity to gain a period of work experience which acts as a focal point for learning and provides experience of the sectors
- giving learners the opportunity to develop a range of skills and techniques, personal skills and attributes essential for successful performance in working life.

General Information

Entry Requirements:

You do not need to have any previous experience of health and social care, but you will need at least 4 GCSE's at C grade or above, one of which must be English language. Alternatively A merit in intermediate health and social care along with English GCSE at C or above, or BTEC first in health and social care or Children's care learning and development with English language at C grade or above.

Structure of the Course:

You will complete 18 units over 2 years. The BTEC National Diploma is equivalent to 3 A levels. You will undertake work placement and this will support your learning and assessment.

Core units include:

Developing Effective Communication in Health and Social Care

This unit offers learners opportunities to explore and develop the skills of effective interpersonal interaction and communication essential to the operation of health and social care services.

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/service users

Development Through the Life Stages

This unit develops understanding of the different life stages and how people grow and develop. It requires you to reflect on the importance of a variety of factors and major life events on the development of individuals, and to consider the nature-nurture debate.

Fundamentals of Anatomy and Physiology for Health and Social Care

This provides you with a clear understanding of fundamental aspects of the anatomy and physiology of human body systems. Learners will gain an overview of the gross anatomy and function of all human body systems before investigating selected body systems in greater depth.

Personal and Professional Development in Health and Social Care

You will initially explore factors that affect learning, then plan and monitor your own personal and professional development and reflect on their development.

Other units include:

- Sociological Perspectives for Health and Social Care
- Psychological Perspectives for Health and Social Care
- Values and Planning in Social Care
- Caring for Children and Young People
- Supporting and Protecting Adults
- Public Health

Methods of Assessment:

This course is 100% course work consisting of 18 units. Your course will use a wide range of assessment methods including, projects, assignments, case studies and coursework. You will have the opportunity to collect evidence throughout course via these methods to form a portfolio, which will be used to determine your final grade of pass, merit or distinction.

Future Opportunities

The majority of students go onto Higher Education and complete further health and social care or early years i.e. Adult Nursing, Midwifery, Primary School Teacher, Children's Nurse, Social Worker, Police and the Armed Forces. There are also many other professions you can enter. The college works closely with Connexions and they would be pleased to advise you further.

Additional points to note

If you have any further questions about the course please contact either Kirsty Ashworth (Head of Social Science) or Olwyn Armstrong (Vocational Co-ordinator in Social Science). We would be happy to discuss issues or advise you further. Students will be required to complete a CRB (Criminal Record Bureau) check in line with national guidelines before they can commence work experience or a work placement.