

THE PROGRAMME

A broad basis of study for the health and social care sector, this qualification is designed to support progression to higher education, when taken as part of a programme of study that includes other appropriate BTEC Nationals or A Levels. The qualification studied over 2 years is equivalent in size to one A Level. There are 4 units of which 3 are mandatory and 2 of these are externally assessed. Mandatory content (83%). External assessment (58%).

The mandatory content of the qualification incorporates topics relevant across the health and social care sector:

- Human Lifespan Development
- Working in Health and Social Care
- Meeting Individual Care and Support Needs

The optional unit delivered:

- Supporting Individuals with Additional Needs

There are three main forms of assessment that you need to be aware of: external, internal and synoptic. The styles of external assessment used for qualifications in the Health and Social Care suite are: examinations – all learners take the same assessment at the same time, normally with a written outcome. Set tasks – learners take the assessment during a defined window and demonstrate understanding through completion of a vocational task. Most units in the sector are internally assessed and subject to external standards' verification. Synoptic assessment requires learners to demonstrate that they can identify and use effectively, in an integrated way, an appropriate selection of skills, techniques, concepts, theories and knowledge from across the whole sector, as relevant to a key task.

WHY STUDY THIS SUBJECT?

This qualification will provide the opportunity for full-time learners to enter employment in the health and social care sector or to progress to vocational qualifications. It also gives the opportunity for learners to develop a range of skills and techniques, personal skills and attributes essential for successful performance in working life.

CAREER POSSIBILITIES

Students have the opportunity to consider a range of options within each vocational pathway- health, social care and early years' care and education. It provides an excellent basis for a wide range of higher education courses and careers: Radiography, Midwifery and nursing, Paramedic science, Podiatry, Healthcare science, NHS Practitioner Training Programme and many more opportunities. Many past students find themselves in caring roles, midwifery, childcare and sports physiotherapy to name but a few. You can use an Extended Diploma to progress onto a degree in: BSc (Hons) in Nursing, BA (Hons) in Social Work, BSc (Hons) in Physiotherapy, BSc (Hons) in Occupational Therapy, BSc (Hons) in Speech Therapy and BA (Hons) in Health and Social Care.

