

BTEC National Extended Certificate in Health and Social Care (Equivalent to one A Level)

Course Description:

This qualification has been designed to account for one-third of a two-year, full-time study programme for learners intending to go onto further study in a related sector. It supports access to a range of higher education courses if taken as part of a programme of study that includes a BTEC Diploma or 2 A Levels.

Qualifications Required:

Minimum entry requirements apply, including Grade 4 in GCSE English Language and Maths. If students have studied Health and Social Care at Level 2 they will need to have gained at least a Level 2 Pass.

Aims of the Course:

- To provide applied learning that brings together knowledge and understanding with practical and technical skills
- To perform vocational tasks that encourage the development of appropriate vocational behaviours and transferable skills (communication, teamwork, research and analysis)

Future Prospects:

This qualification is generally taken alongside other qualifications as part of a 2-year programme of learning. This will enable learners to progress to a degree programme chosen from a range of programmes in the health and social care sector.

The qualification carries UCAS points and is recognised by higher education institutions as contributing to meeting admission requirements to many relevant courses. It can be taken alongside, for example:

- A Level Biology, which could lead to a BSc (Hons) in Nursing or Midwifery
- A Level in Psychology, which could lead to a BSc (Hons) in Psychology

Student Feedback:

'Health and Social Care is fun, thought provoking and encourages you to think and work independently.'

'Health and Social Care enables you to empathise with service users and understand how the care sector works.'

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Features of the Course:

To develop a better understanding of the demands of working in the health and social care sector. To demonstrate commitment and interest in the sector when applying for further study.

Units

Students taking this qualification will study three mandatory units:

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

One optional units to be chosen from:

- Sociological Perspectives
- Psychological Perspectives
- Caring for Individuals with Additional Needs
- Physiological Disorders and their Care
- Nutritional Health

Methods of Assessment:

Two Units are assessed by examination:

Human Lifespan Development

Working in Health and Social Care

All other units are assessed through coursework which is marked by the centre and moderated by the exam board.