



HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE (QCF)

LEVEL 3 - BTEC CERTIFICATE, SUBSIDIARY DIPLOMA and 90 CREDIT DIPLOMA

Examination Board: EDEXCEL

Course content:

The Certificate course is equivalent in size to 0.5 A Level (180 Guided Learning Hours). It is usually delivered as the first year of a two year course with the vast majority of students then going on to expand their studies to the Subsidiary Diploma course in the second year. Two mandatory and at least one optional units are covered and work can be called for external moderation. It is taught over 4 periods a week with additional directed and supervised study period. The course provides an introduction to the Health and Social Care sector through applied learning.

The Subsidiary Diploma course is equivalent in size to one A Level (360 Guided Learning Hours) and is taught over two years and three of the six units covered are mandatory. One or two units can be requested for external moderation by a Standards Verifier. The course gives a broad basis of study in preparation for work, apprenticeships or further study within the Health and Social Care sector. To allow students to apply their theoretical studies students will be required to undertake a minimum of 50 hours work experience in relevant Health or Social Care settings.

Some students *may* be offered the opportunity to extend their studies to the 90 Credit Diploma in Health and Social Care which is equivalent in size to 1.5 A Levels (510 GLH). Four mandatory units are covered and a selection of optional units to meet the required GLH. Again, student's work from more than one unit can be called for external moderation and standards verification.

All three courses can support student progression into an apprenticeship, employment or higher education when taken as part of a programme of study that includes other appropriate BTEC, Cambridge Technicals or A Level courses.

Mandatory Units for the Certificate

U1 Developing Effective Communication in Health and Social Care
and either of (or both)

U2

or

U3 Health, Safety and Security in Health and Social Care

Plus one other optional unit if only U2 or U3 covered

Additional Optional Units for the Subsidiary Diploma

As well as the mandatory Units 1, 2 and 3, a further three units are covered for the Subsidiary Diploma. These are usually selected from;

- U4 Development Through the Life Stages
- U7¹ Sociological perspectives for Health and Social Care
- U8¹ Psychological perspectives for Health and Social Care
- U21 Nutrition for Health and Social Care
- U48² Exploring personal and professional development in Health and Social Care

¹U7 and U8 are half units and therefore only require 30 guided learning hours. Both units are covered to give the required 60 GLH of a 'normal' unit.

²U48 also requires 50 hours of work experience in a relevant Health or Social Care setting

Mandatory Unit for the 90 Credit Diploma

Only one additional unit is required for the 90 Credit diploma; U4 - Development Through the Life Stages

Continued



HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE *CONTINUED*

Additional 90 Credit Diploma optional units

Two further units are required for the 90 Credit Diploma. In the past these have been selected from:

U5	Anatomy and physiology for Health and Social Care
U6 ³	Personal and professional development in Health and Social Care
U12	Public Health
U20	Health Education
U27 ⁴	Challenging Behaviour
U40 ⁴	Dementia Care
U39	Infection prevention and control in Health and Social Care

³U6 requires a total of 100 hours of work experience in a relevant Health or Social Care setting

⁴U27 and U40 are both 30 GLH half units and are delivered together to meet the course GLH requirements

Methods of assessment:

A coursework portfolio is developed throughout the course. Assignments may require evidence in the form of posters, presentations, practical work, reports, essays etc. All work is internally assessed and moderated. Some units may be requested for external standards verification.

Skills developed by the Certificate, Subsidiary and 90 Credit Diploma Courses:

Students over the course of the programme will develop their skills in three main areas which are all equally valuable to future employment, apprenticeship and further education routes:

- cognitive and problem-solving skills: use critical thinking, approach non-routine problems applying expert and creative solutions, use systems and technology
- intrapersonal skills: communicating, working collaboratively, negotiating and influencing, self-presentation
- interpersonal skills: self-management, adaptability and resilience, self-monitoring and development

Possible careers:

A wide variety of careers within the Health & Social Care profession, including: Care Assistant, Community Care Worker, Community Support Worker, Day Care Assistant, Family Carer's Support Worker, Health Care Assistant, Home Care Assistant, Midwifery Support Worker, Nursing Assistant, Residential Worker; Rehabilitation Worker, Sensory Impairment Worker, Sheltered Housing Assistant, Social Care Officer, Diploma HE Nursing / Midwifery, Operating Department Practitioner, Care Manager, Pharmacy Technician, Paramedic, Nursing, etc.

Progression:

Previous students have gone on to further study in Higher Education e.g. degree Social Welfare BA (Hons), Occupational Therapy BSc (Hons), Nursing BSc (Hons), Primary Teaching BEd, Health and Social Care (FdSc) or directly into employment in the Health & Social Care sector such as a Care Assistant Team Leader in a Dementia Care unit or and others as Care Assistants in a unit specialising in acquired brain injury. Others have gone onto complete apprenticeships in fields such as Dental Nursing and Child Care.

Prior experience:

A minimum of Grade C (new Grade 4) in English and Science preferred. Please note that Nursing and related degree courses also require a minimum of GCSE grade C (new Grade 4) in Maths.