



HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE

QUALIFICATION: BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate

Examination Board: PEARSON

What do I need to know or be able to do before taking this course?

The most important thing you need is a lively and enquiring mind, an interest in health and social care, and a willingness to explore new ideas and an ability to communicate your ideas effectively.

A Level 3 candidate is expected to have passed 5 GCSE subjects at grades A*-C (9-5 in the reformed linear GCSE format, including English or an appropriate intermediate level course.

Why choose Health & Social Care?

The Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Health and Social Care aims to provide an introduction to the sector. It is for learners who are interested in learning about the health and social care sector as part of a balanced study programme. It is equivalent in size to one A Level.

The qualification supports access to a range of higher education courses possibly, but not exclusively, in health and social care, if taken alongside further Level 3 qualifications. The qualification typically makes up one third of a study programme.

The BTEC Level 3 course in Health & Social Care allows students to build skills as well as technical knowledge. It gives them a broad base of understanding whilst allowing them also to focus on the four specialist areas:

- Health
- Early Years (Care and Education)
- Care of Older People
- Individuals with Specific Needs

What kind of student is this course suitable for?

This course will appeal to students who:

- enjoy studying a subject that is relevant to their own lives and experience;
- want the opportunity to carry out practical work as well as classwork;
- enjoy discovering about themselves in practical situations;
- want to find out more about the subject through personal investigation;
- are interested in developing an understanding of caring organisations and the clients they serve;
- want to study a course that is active and enjoyable;
- wish to move on to a related career or higher education course.

Course Structure

The qualification is made up of 4 units, of which 3 are mandatory. 2 of these units are externally assessed. The remaining units are internally assessed.

Mandatory units:

Unit 1 - Human Lifespan Development (External)

Unit 2 - Working in Health and Social Care (External)

Unit 5 - Meeting Individual Care and Support Needs (Internal Synoptic)

The final unit will be selected from one of the following optional units:

Unit 10 - Sociological Perspectives (Internal)

Unit 11 - Psychological Perspectives (Internal)

Unit 12 - Supporting Individuals with Additional Needs (Internal)

Unit 14 - Physiological Disorders and their Care (Internal)

What courses or employment can I progress to?

BTEC Level 3 qualifications in Health & Social Care qualifies for UCAS points. It gives students a wide choice of progression options into further study, training, or relevant employment. Students who successfully complete the qualification will be well equipped to move onto degrees, BTEC Higher National Diplomas or NVQs.

Students completing this course will have access to a wide range of career and higher education opportunities. You learn and use a variety of transferable skills; these include collecting and analysing data, communicating findings in different ways and identifying and developing links between different parts of the subject. These skills are in great demand and are recognised by employers and universities / colleges as being of great value. It combines well with many AS and A2 level courses leading to opportunities in many areas including Nursing, Midwifery, Teacher Training, Social Work, Social Sciences, Caring Services and Administration.