

POST 16 SUBJECT OVERVIEW

Name of Subject

BTEC Level 3 Extended certificate in health and social care

Which Examination Specification is Studied for this Course?

BTEC Level 3 Extended certificate in health and social care

Why should I study this course?

You should study this course if you think you would enjoy learning about the skills required to work in health or social care and the specific careers within these sectors, such as nursing and social work. The course is extremely broad, so you will learn many transferable skills that can be applied to similar industries, such as teaching.

We are very lucky to have access to some wonderful guest speakers, including ex students who are now working as nurses in nearby hospitals, occupational therapists, surgeons, mental health nurses, people working on drug trials and more.

Who is suitable to study this course?

Although level 2 BTEC health and social care and child development are useful, there is no prerequisite to have studied these courses. A vast number of our previous students have come without these qualifications and have gone on to have very successful careers in the industry or similar industries, including mental health nurses, general nurses and teachers.

Other A level subjects that link well in with this course include sociology and psychology. Sociology is great for unit 10: sociological perspectives and psychology links in very nicely with unit 1: human lifespan development.

What GCSE Qualifications Support the Study of this Course?

Although it would be helpful to have studied either health and social care at level 2 or child development, it is definitely not a prerequisite and many previous students have successfully studied the course without having studied these courses beforehand.

What are the Qualification Requirements for this Course?

All students undertaking this course are expected to have secured 5 passes at GCSE, including English and Maths.

How is the Course Delivered?

There are 3 members of staff delivering this course; Mrs Fretwell, Mrs Arnold and Mrs Shea, who is also the Head of the centre, so you are in very good hands.

Should you decide to study this course, you will study 4 different units in total over the 2 years. Although these units will feel like individual subjects, as you will study them alongside each other, they do all link in to one another.

What is particularly interesting about this course is that there are a range of assessments across the subjects, including exam, coursework, presentations and interviews. We are aiming to not only prepare you for and supply you with transferable skills for higher education, but also the health and social care sector itself.

Much of the content is learnt through group work and class discussions. Students are then presented with learning aims and assessment criterion, which they will produce to coursework to meet the requirements of these aims. Each unit - exam and coursework carries a score (which equate to grades), which are then totalled up at the conclusion of the course to provide an overall grade. The grading system is not like GCSE and BTEC qualifications and instead uses pass, merit, distinction and distinction*.

We encourage students to take notes in class and then to supplement these notes with wider reading from relevant magazines and online articles. A minimum of 5 hours additional work per unit is presumed to be carried out each week.

Subject Overview		
Half Term	Year 12	Year 13
Autumn 1	Unit 1: human lifespan development	Unit 2: working in health and social care

	Unit 5: meeting individual care and support needs	Unit 10: sociological perspectives
Autumn 2	Unit 1: human lifespan development Unit 5: meeting individual care and support needs	Unit 2: working in health and social care Unit 10: sociological perspectives
Spring 1	Unit 5: meeting individual care and support needs	Unit 2: working in health and social care Unit 10: sociological perspectives
Spring 2	Unit 5: meeting individual care and support needs	Unit 2: working in health and social care Unit 10: sociological perspectives
Summer 1	Unit 5: meeting individual care and support needs	Unit 2: working in health and social care Unit 10: sociological perspectives
Summer 2	Preparation for year 13	Unit 2: working in health and social care Unit 10: sociological perspectives

How is the Course Assessed?

Year 1:

Unit 1: human lifespan development - Exam

Unit 5: meeting individual care and support needs - coursework



Year 2:

Unit 2: working in health and social care - Exam

Unit 10: sociological perspectives - coursework

What is our Recommended Subject Reading list to Support your Study?

Nursing Times

BBC News - health tab

WHO website

