

POST 16 SUBJECT OVERVIEW

Name of Subject

BTEC Level 3 National Diploma in Health and Social Care

Which Examination Specification is Studied for this Course?

Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Diploma in Health and Social Care

Why should I study this course?

This course is for anyone who has an interest in, or is wanting to progress into a career in health or social care, including nursing, occupational therapist, paramedic, social worker and many, many more... It is also very useful for anyone with an interest in teaching. The course is very broad and covers a range of areas.

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?

By choosing to study this course, which is effectively 2 qualifications in health and social care, it is expected you will come with a keen interest in both health and social care. Wider reading and keeping up to date with the latest changes is expected.

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 in with this course include biology, sociology and psychology. Biology is particularly useful when you study unit 19: nutritional health, while 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 8 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 2 overall grades. 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 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 5: meeting individual care and support needs Unit 7: principles of safe practice in health and social care Unit 19: nutritional health	Unit 2: working in health and social care Unit 4: enquiries into current research in health and social care Unit 8: promoting public health Unit 10: sociological perspectives
Autumn 2	Unit 1: human lifespan development Unit 5: meeting individual care and support needs Unit 7: principles of safe practice in health and social care Unit 19: nutritional health	Unit 2: working in health and social care Unit 4: enquiries into current research in health and social care Unit 8: promoting public health Unit 10: sociological perspectives
Spring 1	Unit 5: meeting individual care and support needs Unit 7: principles of safe practice in health and social care Unit 19: nutritional health	Unit 8: promoting public health Unit 10: sociological perspectives
Spring 2	Unit 5: meeting individual care and support needs Unit 7: principles of safe practice in health and social care Unit 19: nutritional health	Unit 8: promoting public health Unit 10: sociological perspectives

Summer 1	Unit 5: meeting individual care and support needs Unit 7: principles of safe practice in health and social care Unit 19: nutritional health	Unit 8: promoting public health Unit 10: sociological perspectives
Summer 2	Preparing for year 13	Unit 8: promoting public health 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

Unit 7: principles of safe practice in health and social care - coursework

Unit 19: nutritional health - coursework

Year 2:

Unit 2: working in health and social care - Exam

Unit 4: enquiries into current research in health and social care -Synoptic assessment

Unit 8: promoting public health - coursework

Unit 10: sociological perspectives - coursework

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

- Nursing Times
- BBC News - health tab

- WHO website

