BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Health & Social Care

Board: Edexcel
Qualification: BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Health & Social Care (Equivalent to 1 GCE A Level)

What is the course about?

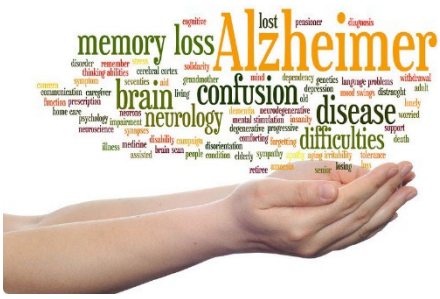
This course will provide you with an up to date and relevant insight into the world of Health and Social Care. You will learn in detail about how we develop as humans; physically, intellectually, mentally and socially, before looking in detail about how things can impact this development and the problems that we can face throughout our life. We look into units that allow us to understand how the HSC sector runs, the different professions within HSC, organisations and the responsibilities they have towards the service users and those who work within HSC. You will have the opportunity to complete your own research into disorders that interest you and find out how they are diagnosed, treated and create care plans for them. This will give you a fantastic insight into all the different services and professions who work as multidisciplinary teams to support people throughout their life. You will develop various skills including; how to effectively communicate, evaluative skills, problem solving, developing your own learning, ICT, research skills, presentation skills, and learning to work independently as well as in groups, which will develop your communication skills. These skills are complemented by having the ability to not only put them into practice within lessons, but you will have the opportunity to put these into practice in HSC settings.

Over the 2 year course you will cover 4 units of work which include:

3 mandatory units:

- Unit 1 – Human Life Span Development
- Unit 2 – Working in Health and Social Care
- Unit 5 – Meeting Individual Care and Support Needs

These provide for much of the core knowledge and understanding for National Occupational Standards in Health and Social Care. The mandatory units are a robust introduction to employment in this sector or for higher education. They are complimented by a final fourth unit which is chosen by the Sixth Form in advance.



The **optional unit** we then do is selected to help support students who continue into a range of health and social care sector jobs. It will be selected from:

- Unit 12- Supporting Individuals with Additional Needs
- Unit 14 – Physiological Disorders and their care

How will I be assessed?

The course is based on 3 **mandatory units**, 2 of which will be an externally assessed exam. The remaining unit will be externally assessed but in the form of a set task – a piece of coursework. The final **specialist unit** will be completed through coursework. Evidence for assessment will be generated through a range of diverse activities including assignment, project work and case studies. The course primarily focuses on the vocational aspects of Health & Social Care so you will find a lot of teaching is based in work experience, case studies and placement visits.

Where can I go next?

The BTEC Level 3 National Certificate in Health and Social Care earns you UCAS points and is therefore valued by universities allowing you to take on HND/ HNC or honours degree. Students can go in to careers such as nursing, teaching, midwifery, social work, teaching, youth worker, care workers, occupational health and many more.