



# Pearson BTEC Level 3 Foundation Diploma in Health and Social Care (1.5 x A-Level equiv.)

## Why study Health and Social Care?

The Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Health and Social Care aims to provide an introduction to the healthcare sector. It is for students who are interested in learning about the health and social care sector as part of a balanced study programme. Taken alongside other Level 3 courses such as Biology, Psychology or PE, Health and Social Care can lead to degree courses in disciplines such as nursing, medicine, education or sport studies.

## What is the course structure?

The qualification is equivalent in size to 1.5 A-Levels, and is designed to occupy either one third or half of a typical study programme, which could include other vocational or academic qualifications such as another BTEC National or A Levels.

The following are mandatory topics relevant across the health and social care sector:

**Human lifespan development** (externally assessed): students cover physical, intellectual, emotional and social development across the human lifespan, and the factors affecting development and the effects of ageing.

**Working in health and social care** (externally assessed): students explore what it is like to work in the health and social care sector, including the roles and responsibilities of workers and organisations.

**Meeting individual care and support needs** (internally assessed): students focus on the principles and practicalities that underpin meeting individuals' care and support needs, which are the foundation of all the care disciplines.

Students will also study optional units as outlined below:

### Year 12

Module 1 – Human Lifespan Development  
Module 5 – Meeting Individual Care and Support Needs  
Module 6 – Work experience in Health and Social Care  
Module 11 – Psychological Perspectives

### Year 13

Module 2 – Working in Health and Social Care  
Module 6 – Work experience in Health and Social Care  
Module 7 – Principles of Safe Practice in Health and Social Care

## Which activities will I be engaged in during the course?

Some units are internally assessed through coursework set and marked by the subject teachers. Two units are assessed externally, one through an examination and the second through a task book completed in exam conditions and set by the awarding body. **There will also be a compulsory work placement unit, to be completed on Wednesdays as part of curriculum enrichment.**



How can I prepare for the course?

Billingham, Davenport, Talman et al., *BTEC National Health and Social Care Student Book 1* (Pearson Education, 2016)

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