

Starting to teach GCE Health and Social Care Externally Assessed Units

External Units

- Unit 1: Human Growth and Development - AS unit
- Unit 4: Social Aspects and Lifestyle Choices - AS unit
- Unit 7: Meeting Individual Needs - A2 Synoptic unit
- Unit 12: Understanding Human Behaviour - A2 unit

Unit 1: Human Growth and Development

This unit focuses on:

- Aspects of human growth and development throughout the life stages
- Factors that can influence human growth and development
- Definitions of what it means to be 'healthy' and how good health can be promoted

Unit 4: Social Aspects and Lifestyle Choices

This unit focuses on:

- Different lifestyle choices people make
- Different social factors that can affect health and well-being
- How effective care practice is achieved - high quality practitioner care
- Care value base

Unit 7: Meeting Individual Needs

This unit focuses on:

- How health and social care services are provided
- How services meet needs
- How accountability within care organisations is maintained

Format of the papers

- Stimulus response papers which link to the pathways
- Questions will relate to the case studies
- Tiered papers which allow for differences in abilities between candidates
- Candidates will be given the opportunity to demonstrate knowledge, understanding and application of principles and concepts
- Papers will be 1 hour and 30 minutes long
- Papers will be marked out of 90

Frequently asked questions

- Q1:** Do I have to cover all of the material in the specification?
Yes as this is good practice, but the paper set by the principle examiners may not cover all the unit specification. In the course of time the content will be covered by the paper.
- Q2:** Can candidates sit the exam more than once?
Yes, the candidate can sit the exam paper more than once.
- Q3:** What is the best form of delivery? - short/fat or long/thin?
This is essentially a centre specific decision which will depend on the resources available within each centre, and the tutors experience in delivering the unit.

Frequently asked questions

Q4: Do I teach both externally tested units in year one or spread it over two years?

Again this will be centre specific and dependant on the teaching resources available. It will also depend on the ability of the student cohort at that time.

Q5: Does the candidate have to pass all the units?

No

Q6: How is the qualification awarded?

The qualification is cumulative but the qualification is awarded in a similar format to GCSE, that is the internal and external units will be awarded jointly so that there is parity across units.

Frequently asked questions

Q7: If I opt for the single award GCE (six units) can the candidates complete it in one year and can they complete it in two years?
It will depend entirely on the student cohort and their ability, as well as the teaching resources available. As with any new programme it would be advisable to plan your delivery with your team prior to its commencement and take it slowly so that you do not feel pressured.

Q8: Will support material be continually developed to assist my delivery?

Yes, the senior examining team have produced teacher resources in addition to text books. It is important to remember that one of the advantages of this award is that the material produced, feedback given after each event and any inset events will cover all 12 units.

Q9: Will the format of the papers change?

Probably yes, but not to the extent that they are unrecognisable from their present format. Candidates and centres are very positive about the current format so the only way they will change is if the performance of the candidates dramatically fell or it was felt they were too accessible.