

Statement of Purpose

600/6312/9 - Pearson BTEC Level 1/Level 2 First Extended Certificate in Health and Social Care

Who is the qualification for?

This level 2 qualification is 360 guided learning hours (equivalent in size to three GCSEs) and is aimed at students aged 16 plus who are working at this level and want to progress to a career within health and social care. Students can progress to employment either directly into an entry level role or via an apprenticeship in health and social care.

What does this qualification cover?

All the content of the qualification, mandatory and optional, relates directly to the skills, knowledge and understanding needed to work in the health and social care sector.

All students will cover the compulsory areas:

- Human lifespan development
- Health and social care values
- Effective communication
- Healthy living.

Students will then choose six or seven optional specialist units from a choice of 10 (totalling 240 GLH) to suit their progression needs and interests.

The optional units are all specific to the sector:

- Social Influence on Health and Wellbeing
- Promoting Health and wellbeing
- The impact of Nutrition on Health and Wellbeing
- Equality and Diversity in Health and Social Care
- Individual Rights in Health and Social Care
- Human Body Systems and Care of Disorders
- Services in Health and Social Care
- Creative and Therapeutic Activities in Health and Social Care
- The Health and Social Care Sector
- The Early Years Sector

Students will apply their knowledge and understanding in a practical context. They also have the opportunity to undertake relevant work experience which will improve their employability within the sector and help inform their career choices. Students can choose from undertaking their placement (a minimum of 25 hours) in either a health and social care or an early years setting.

What could this qualification lead to?

Achievement of this qualification at level 2 will provide the student with the knowledge, skills and understanding to gain employment within the health and social care sector.

Job roles and progression to employment include:

- **Care worker** in a care home
- **Personal assistant**, caring for an individual in their home
- **Health Care Assistant** in a hospital setting

- **Apprenticeships**, opportunities including, The Health and Social Care Apprenticeship, Health Care Support Service Apprenticeship, Health apprenticeships, for example emergency care and Blood Donor Support, or Early Years Educator Apprenticeship.

This qualification is part of a larger suite of BTEC Health and Social Care qualifications

The BTEC Level 1/Level 2 First Extended Certificate is 360 GLH and broadly equivalent to three GCSEs. This qualification would suit those students who want to progress directly into employment or an apprenticeship. Achievement of mathematics and English qualifications at level 2 may be necessary to support progression into work.

The BTEC Level 1/Level 2 First Diploma, at 480 GLH, allows students to select additional option units for greater breadth of study and will open up additional opportunities to progress to level 3 qualifications which could in turn provide access to Higher Education degree course in the sector such as nursing, social work, teaching and health sciences.

The BTEC Level 1/Level 2 First Award and Certificate have been designed for 14-16 year olds and are intended for delivery within a broad curriculum offer. These qualifications are not intended for post-16 students.

Who supports this qualification?

This qualification is supported by the following employers and professional bodies:

- The Royal College of Midwives
- Alexandra Centre
- Gloucestershire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust
- Graham Care Group
- Independence Matters
- Norwich & Central Norfolk Mind
- North Devon Link (Mental Health) Service

Further information

Further information on the qualification can be accessed at <http://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/btec-firsts/health-and-social-care-2012-nqf.html>.