



# Qualifications in Health and Social Care: Which path to take?

## How do you like to learn?



### Level 2

#### Vocational:

An introduction to the sector - full time over 1 or 2 years

Assessment: exams, projects, presentations and practical tasks; work placement hours required in some optional units.

**BTEC Level 1/Level 2 First in Health and Social Care**

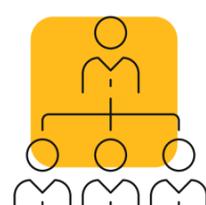
#### Apprenticeship:

Learning in the workplace. Usually 1-1.5 years

Assessment: Professional Development Portfolio and End Point Assessment (EPA).

**Adult Care Worker**  
**Healthcare Support worker**  
**Healthcare Science Assistant**

#### Academic qualifications



### Employment

There are all kinds of careers you can go into, including:

- Nurse**
- Midwife**
- Paramedic**
- Social worker**

**Success at level 2!**

### Level 3

#### Vocational:

Full time 1-2 years.

Assessment: external assessment, practical and written tasks, presentations. Work Placement is mandatory in the larger sizes.

**BTEC Level 3 National in Health and Social care/Health Studies Pathway RQF**

#### Apprenticeship:

Working and learning in the workplace, usually 2 years long.

Assessment via Professional Practice Portfolio and EPA.

**Lead Adult Care Worker**  
**Senior Healthcare Support Worker**

#### Academic:

Full time study, 2 years.

Assessment: usually coursework and external assessment.

**A Levels**

**Success at level 3!**

### Level 4

#### Vocational:

Equivalent to 1st year of a degree, Part time or full time; equivalent to 1st year of a degree. Provides academic and practical skills for employment or further study.

Assessment: projects, presentations, practical tasks; work placement hours required.

**Higher National Certificate in Healthcare Practice**

**Higher National Certificate in Social and Community Work**

#### Apprenticeship:

Usually takes 2 years.

Assessment via Professional Practice Portfolio, Multi Source Feedback Exercises and EPA.

**Healthcare Science Associate**

**Success at level 4!**

### Level 5

#### Vocational:

Part time or full time.

Assessed via projects, presentations and practical tasks, work placement hours required.

**Higher National Diploma in Healthcare Practice**

**Higher National Diploma in Social and Community Work**

#### Apprenticeship:

Typically takes 18 months. Detailed knowledge and understanding of the sector, enhanced skills training.

Assessed via Professional Development Portfolio and EPA.

**Leader in Adult Care Healthcare Assistant Practitioner**

#### Academic:

**Foundation Degree:** Full or part time. Develop knowledge and technical skills for a particular job or profession. Typically takes between two and four years.

**Foundation degree Advice**

**Success at level 5!**

### Level 6

#### Academic:

**Foundation Degree:** Full or part time. Develop knowledge and technical skills for a particular job or profession. Typically takes between two and four years.

**Foundation degree Advice**

**Success at level 6!**

### Level 7

#### Apprenticeship:

Level 6 and Level 7 Degree Apprenticeship: combine working with studying part time at university (3-6 Years). Assessed via coursework and EPA.

**Health and Science Apprenticeships Care Services**

#### Academic:

Master's Degree; focus on a particular subject in greater detail. Full or part time (2-4 years). Typically assessed via practical assignments, essays, presentations, portfolios, degree shows and a thesis.

**Postgraduate Study**

**Success at level 7!**

### Level 8

#### Academic:

PhD: full or part time (3-6 years). Assessed via a thesis of independent research worthy of publication and an oral discussion with question and answer session with experts.

**Postgraduate Study**

**Success at level 8!**