



## Purpose Statement

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| <b>Name of regulated qualification</b> |  |
| <b>QN: 600/4782/3</b>                  | <b>Title: Pearson BTEC Level 1/Level 2 First Award in Health and Social Care (120 GLH)</b> |

### What is the health and social care sector?

About 3 million people in the UK work in health and social care. In healthcare, this includes jobs such as doctors, pharmacists, nurses, midwives, healthcare assistants and administrators, while social care roles include care assistants, social workers, occupational therapists and counsellors. Demand for both health and social care is likely to continue to rise, so it is sure to continue to play a key role in UK society, and the demand for people to fill these vital jobs will increase.

### Who is this qualification for?

This qualification is a Technical Award equivalent in size to one GCSE. It is ideal for you if you are a pre-16 student working at level 1/level 2 and want to include a study of health and social care in your broader Key Stage 4 curriculum. It provides an introduction to some of the key themes within the health and social care sector, enabling you to develop and apply your knowledge in new and practical sector-related contexts, while also developing a range of relevant practical, communication and technical skills.

### What will I study as part of this qualification?

This qualification provides an engaging and relevant introduction to the health and social care sector. You will explore key themes by researching the life stages and factors affecting the growth and development of individuals, and the role of care workers in promoting beneficial change in an individual's environment. You will also gain an understanding of the set of care values used within health and social care.

The qualification consists of two mandatory, core units which provide the key underpinning knowledge and skills and cover the following areas:

- human lifespan development, which explores a set of life skills from infancy to later adulthood – you will identify how factors in a person's life, such as their level of income, can both affect and promote their life chances

- health and social care values, which explores care values, such as confidentiality, dignity and respect, and demonstrates how they could be used within health and social care – you will also study the importance of meeting the needs of individual people.
- You will take two (from six) optional units, which enable you to explore the wider role of the care worker and to apply your knowledge through a practical real-world approach. You will be encouraged to make relevant connections between theory and practice by applying the skills you learn to health and social care related scenarios.
- The six optional units cover the following areas:
  - effective communication
  - social influences on health and wellbeing
  - promoting health and wellbeing
  - the impact of nutrition on health and wellbeing
  - equality and diversity
  - individual rights.

### How will I be assessed?

Your knowledge of human lifespan development is assessed through a written paper, which is set and marked by Pearson and features mini case studies. The other areas are assessed through assignments, which are set and marked by your school.

### Where will this take me?

When you have completed the qualification, you will have developed a practical understanding of the health and social care sector. You will also have developed a range of transferable, technical, practical and study skills, including written and oral communication, research and project management skills. Your development of this broad range of sector-related skills will support your progression to a level 3 academic, applied general or technical level health and social care qualification or to an apprenticeship, when taken alongside other qualifications.

After you have finished the course, you may want to go on to further study such as A levels, BTECs or a mixture of both. Alternatively, you might want to find work in the health and social care sector as an apprentice or a trainee. The best option for you will depend on the grades you achieve in this qualification and in other qualifications you have taken, what you enjoy doing and any advice you can access about the further learning and training opportunities available in your area.

### What other subjects go well with health and social care?

This course builds on and uses the knowledge and skills you learn in your GCSEs. It can be complementary learning for GCSEs in EBacc subjects (including Biology), GCSEs such as Physical Education (with links to nutrition and balanced diets) or other Technical Awards, for example BTEC Children's Play, Learning and Development. This course is different from studying GCSEs, since, by taking part in different types of practical activities, it gives you the opportunity to apply your knowledge, skills and the techniques you learn in practical ways, such as demonstrating care values in a health and social care setting.