

Health and Social Care

Background information

BTEC Firsts (Level 2) and BTEC Nationals (Level 3) are QCF qualifications designed to provide highly specialist work-related qualifications in a range of vocational sectors. They give learners the knowledge, understanding and skills that they need to prepare for employment.

The health and social care course offered at The Priory Witham Academy starts with the Level 2 BTEC First which is run in year 12 and is then followed by the Level 3 BTEC National Subsidiary Award which is studied in year 13. Each course involves eight periods per week of class study in addition to which students need to spend a minimum of four hours on private study.

Basic knowledge required

There are no specific entry requirements for this course though an interest in working with the elderly or the young would be an advantage as the course is ideal for those wishing to pursue a career in any aspect of the Care Sector, including nursing, childcare, teaching, paramedics, social work and counselling.

Assessment and Marking

Each unit contains statements of evidence that each pupil should produce in order to receive a pass, merit or distinction grade – these statements are set out in a grading grid. Pupils must submit evidence for all relevant units, four for the Extended Certificate and six for the Subsidiary Diploma, as their final grade is based on achieving the grading criteria across all units studied. The 60-credit BTEC Level 3 Subsidiary Diploma extends the specialist work-related focus of the BTEC Level 2 course and covers the key knowledge and practical skills required in the appropriate vocational sector. The BTEC Level 3 Subsidiary Diploma offers greater flexibility and a choice of emphasis through the optional units. The Level 2 Extended certificate is broadly equivalent to two GCSEs at grades A* to C and the Level 3 Subsidiary Diploma is equivalent to one GCE A Level

Special Aspects of the course

The BTEC Firsts in Health and Social Care have been developed to:

- provide education and training for health and social care employees
- give opportunities for health and social care employees to achieve a nationally-recognised Level 2 vocationally-specific qualification
- give full-time learners the opportunity to enter employment in the health and social care sector or to progress to vocational qualifications such as the BTEC Level 3 Nationals in Health and Social Care
- give learners the opportunity to develop a range of skills and techniques, personal skills and attributes essential for successful performance in working life.

The BTEC Nationals in Health and Social Care have been developed in the health and social care sector to:

- provide education and training for health and social care employees.
- provide opportunities for health and social care employees to achieve a nationally recognised Level 3 vocationally-specific qualification.

- provide the opportunity for full-time learners to enter employment in the health and social care sector or to progress to vocational qualifications such as the BTEC Higher Nationals in Health and Social Care.
- provide the opportunity for learners to develop a range of skills and techniques, personal skills and attributes essential for successful performance in working life.

Year 12 Objectives (BTEC Level 2 and 3 qualifications in Health and Social Care)

Module 1
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communication in Health and Social Care - Level 2 • Anatomy and Physiology for Health and Social Care – Level 2
Module 2
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Individual Rights in Health and Social Care – Level 2 • The Impact of Diet on Health – Level 2
Module 3
Complete level 2 work
Module 4
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developing effective communication in Health and social care – L3 (sub dip) • Personal and Professional Development in Health and Social Care – L3 (dip)
Module 5
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anatomy and Physiology in Health and Social Care – Level 3 (sub dip) • Development through the life stages (dip)
Module 6
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Equality diversity and rights in HSC – L3 (sub dip) • Physiological disorders - L3 (dip)

Year 13 Objectives (BTEC Level 2 and 3 qualifications in Health and Social Care)

Module 1
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Public Health – L3 (sub dip)• Psychological perspectives in HSC – L3 (dip)
Module 2
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Physiological disorders – L3 (sub dip)• Sociological perspectives – L3 (dip)
Module 3
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Health safety and security in HSC – L3 (sub dip)• Nutrition for HSC – L3 (dip)
Module 4
Complete unit and improve grades
Module 5
Complete unit and improve grades

Support Opportunities Year 12 and 13

Students studying for the Diploma need to gain 100 hours of relevant work experience, preferably in a range of health and social care related positions. Those studying the subsidiary diploma are encouraged to gain practical experience in some area of the Care Sector. This could be through external visits e.g. to nursing homes or nurseries, or through Academy based schemes such as teaching experience, mentoring, paired reading or organising the OAP Christmas lunch.

In addition students need to keep up to date with current events, so they are able to include evidence from examples in the news relating to how health and social care professionals operate in their assignments.