

# Health & Social Care

## BTEC Level 3 Diploma

Equivalent to two A Levels

### Overview

This is a two year vocational course, that is the equivalent to two A Levels. It is an exciting subject for students who are interested in working with people in a wide variety of settings. Students have the opportunity to study the subject in-depth and the content is varied and interesting.

The Diploma course is ideally suited to anyone who is contemplating a career in the industry. Students will study in a positive, creative and friendly environment where they will be motivated and feel confident to express empathy, and demonstrate an understanding of people with a diverse range of needs.

### What goes well with this course?

Health & Social Care goes well with many subjects, particularly:

- Psychology
- Sociology
- PE/Sport
- English
- Biology

### Progression

Health & Social Care students may decide to take up a place at university studying one of a number of subject-related degrees. Popular courses include Nursing, Midwifery, Speech and Language Therapy, Radiography, Physiotherapy, Occupational Therapy and Teaching.

A qualification in Health & Social Care will help provide essential knowledge of the industry and help prepare students for



Higher Education or the world of work.

### Course Content

This course covers a variety of topics such as:

- Human Lifespan Development (assessed via written exam)
- Working in Health & Social Care (assessed via written exam)
- Enquiries into Current Research in Health & Social Care (set and marked externally)
- Meeting Individual Core & Support Needs (set and marked internally)
- Principles of Safe Practice in Health & Social Care (set and marked internally)
- Promoting Public Health (set and marked internally)

In addition students study two optional units.

The learning experience is enhanced through work experience (up to 100 hours), attending talks from visiting professionals, visiting exhibitions, conferences and health fairs. Teaching methods vary from discussion, independent research projects to multi-media applications.

## **Educational Experiences**

### **Course Specific Trips, Visits & Experiences**

BTEC Level 3 Diploma in Health & Social Care students have the opportunity to take part in a variety of course related experiences. In recent years these have included:

- A visit to Canine Partners charity in Heyshott
- A visit to St. Piers School (for autism and epilepsy) in Lingfield
- A Health Fair run by Reigate College's Health & Social Care students. The students actively take part in the Health Fair along with visiting professionals
- A visit to Gunther von Hagen's 'Body Worlds' exhibition which supported the students' studies of Anatomy and Physiology
- The 'Safe Drive Stay Alive' presentation at the Dorking Halls, that included a talk by Surrey Fire and Rescue Service on 'Safer Driving'
- Hands-on experience in baby care where students were given the opportunity to take home a 'Ready or Not Tot', an interactive baby manikin

## **Assessment**

The course is assessed by internally and externally assessed coursework and external examinations (see Course Content for details).

The exam board for this BTEC Diploma is Pearson BTEC.

## **Entry Requirements**

All students need to have at least five GCSEs at Grade 4 or above (and a satisfactory school reference) in order to be accepted on an A Level/BTEC Level 3 Programme.

In addition, students will need the following minimum combination of GCSE grades:

- Grade 4 in a numerate subject such as Maths or Science, and
- Grade 4 in a literate subject such as English Language, English Literature or History

A Merit or above in BTEC Level 2 Health & Social Care will also be considered.

Students on this course should be:

- Interested in the care industry
- Able to carry out independent research
- Able to meet coursework deadlines

Students should enjoy working with others, have good verbal and written communication skills and be computer literate. The ability to plan and organise their own learning is also important.