



## WJEC Level 1 / 2 Vocational award in Health and Social Care (Technical Award)

Our current Vocational Award in Health and Social Care was launched for first teaching in 2017 with the first award in 2019.

We are currently reforming this qualification to meet the new Ofqual and DfE requirements for qualifications to be included in performance tables from 2024 onwards. At the same time, we are taking the opportunity to revise and update the qualification to reflect changes in the sector and feedback from centres.

We are currently seeking views from centres on our high-level proposals. Feedback at this stage will help inform the final shape and content of the qualification. The consultation questions are included in a link at the end of this document.

The specification for our current Vocational Award in Health and Social Care can be downloaded from the [Eduqas website](#).

### The UK Health and Social Care Sector

Many staff now work in roles that cover both health and social care, and the values and qualities needed are very similar. The Government has set out the need for the health and social care sectors to develop new integrated care models to promote health and wellbeing and provide care. In the future, this could mean careers crossing both sectors in new and exciting roles. The social care sector employs 1.48 million people and will have half a million extra jobs available by 2030.<sup>1</sup>

Did you know there are more than 350 different roles in the health and social care sector? You can work in the NHS, a charity or a partnership between the NHS and a local authority department, such as social care or children's services.

### The reformed Vocational Award in Health and Social Care

Our reformed WJEC Vocational Award in Health and Social Care is being designed to provide learners aged 14-16 with a broad introduction to the health and social care sectors and support progression to further learning. Learners will develop a range of general and specialist knowledge, understanding and skills that will support their progression to further study.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/working-health/working-social-care>

### Proposals relating to the qualification structure

We propose that the reformed qualification is updated to a two-unit structure with the externally assessed unit contributing 40% to the overall grade of the qualification and the internally assessed unit contributing to the remaining 60%.

Unit number	Unit title	Assessment	GLH
1	Health, wellbeing and development throughout the lifespan	External	48
2	Health and social care to support outcome-focused provision for person-centred care	Internal	72

This structure has been designed to allow learners to develop underpinning knowledge and understanding of the Health and Social Care Sector; growth and development across the lifespan, factors that shape self-concept and the physical indicators used to measure health. Learners will also develop knowledge of health and social care provision, safeguarding and the contemporary issues facing the sector as well as transferable skills of problem-solving, organisation and time management, planning and communication.

#### Unit 1

<b>Unit title</b>	Health, wellbeing and development throughout the lifespan.
<b>Guided Learning Hours</b>	48
<b>Overview of unit</b>	This unit introduces learners to different ways that individuals grow and develop during the life stages, including the different factors that can affect growth and development as well as data analysis. Learners will also gain an understanding of how health and wellbeing is promoted.
<b>Topics covered</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1.1 Growth and development across the lifespan</li> <li>1.2 Key aspects that affect growth and development across the lifespan</li> <li>1.3 Factors that shape self-concept and personal development</li> <li>1.4 The role and purpose of promoting health and wellbeing</li> <li>1.5 The physical indicators used to measure health and how these can be interpreted</li> </ul>
<b>Summary of assessment</b>	Externally assessed through an on-screen examination. This assessment contributes 40% to the overall qualification grade.

## Unit 2

<b>Unit title</b>	Health and social care to support outcome-focused provision for person-centred care
<b>Guided Learning Hours</b>	72
<b>Overview of unit</b>	This unit introduces learners to health and social care provision in the UK and job roles and responsibilities within the sector. Learners will also gain knowledge and understanding of safeguarding and the contemporary issues in health and social care and the challenges facing the UK.
<b>Topics covered</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>2.1 The range of individual needs across the lifespan</li><li>2.2 The different types of health and social care provision available in the UK to meet the needs of individuals</li><li>2.3 Professional responsibilities and accountabilities within the context of relevant legislative frameworks, standards and codes of conduct and professional practice</li><li>2.4 The term 'safeguarding', the main categories of abuse and neglect, common signs and symptoms associated with harm, abuse and neglect</li><li>2.5 How key professionals work in (partnerships) in order to support individuals to maintain health and wellbeing</li><li>2.6 Current opportunities and challenges facing the health and social care sector and individuals (local and national)</li></ul>
<b>Summary of assessment</b>	This unit is internally assessed and contributes 60% to the overall qualification grade. Learners will apply the knowledge gained in this unit to a given brief.

### Proposals relating to our approach to assessment

**Unit 1** will be externally assessed and will assess underpinning knowledge and understanding of key characteristics and requirements of the health, wellbeing and development throughout the lifespan. This unit is currently assessed through a written examination available on-screen or on paper.

We propose that, in the reformed qualification, this unit is assessed through an on-screen examination. Feedback from both centres and learners has indicated that the current on-screen assessment is engaging and motivating for learners. On-screen assessment will also allow us to introduce new and innovative question types including the use of audio and/or video clips where appropriate.

The first assessment of this qualification will be in 2024 and we anticipate that there will be greater use of technology in learning and assessment by this time. We will keep this proposal under review throughout the development process and will continue to consult with centres and stakeholders to ensure that schools have the technical infrastructure in place before we make a final decision.

**Unit 2** will be internally assessed. We propose that this unit is assessed through one set assignment which will include a choice of two case studies and will provide learners with an insight into outcome-focused provision and employment opportunities in the health and social care sector. Learners will choose one case study and answer the related tasks under controlled conditions. Controlled assessment in our Vocational Awards is designed so that knowledge, skills and understanding are assessed through tasks that have many of the characteristics of real work in the sector. Assignment briefs are designed around an applied context which acts as a focus for the assessment.

### Additional areas for consideration

In addition to your views on the proposals for this qualification we are also interested in hearing your views on a number of other areas including resources. Within the online form, there is an opportunity to join a closed forum to discuss these areas further.

### Consultation questions

To provide your views on these proposals please complete the online survey [here](#).

Please note that the consultation opens on Wednesday, 6<sup>th</sup> May, and will close on Sunday, 31<sup>st</sup> May 2020.