

Purpose Statement

WJEC Level 3 Applied Certificate in Health and Social Care (603/0856/4)

Overview

Who is the qualification for?

This qualification is for learners aged 16-19 who wish to develop knowledge and understanding and gain experience of practical application of skills in health and social care.

What will the qualification cover?

The WJEC Level 3 Applied Certificate in Health and Social Care is an applied general qualification for Post 16 learners who aim to progress to Higher Education and ultimately employment.

This qualification will build on a firm foundation of knowledge and understanding of practitioner roles and values set within contemporary sector-specific contexts. The qualification will provide a sound introduction to the underpinning of core values within the sectors, in addition to the relationships between contemporary policies and service provision and the impact of financial challenges on service provision in the UK.

Although there are no formal entry requirements, the qualification supports progression from KS4 subjects such as the new Level 1/Level 2 Vocational Awards in Health and Social Care, Child Development and GCSEs including Sociology and related subjects, which are likely to be attained alongside a range of other achievements at level 2. The qualification has been designed to be delivered alongside GCE A Levels and other Level 3 vocational qualifications.

The qualification structure and content

The WJEC Level 3 Applied Certificate in Health and Social Care qualification is made up of the following units:

Unit Number	Unit Title	Assessment	Mandatory/Optional	GLH
1	(Contemporary) Issues in Health and Social Care	External (examination)	Mandatory	90
2*	Core Values and Services	Internal	Mandatory	90

**Synoptic unit that draws on skills and knowledge developed in the other unit.*

Unit 1: (Contemporary) Issues in Health and Social Care is based around the current context of health and social care in the UK. This includes understanding inequalities that exist in society and discussing current issues relating to health and social care, focusing on legislation and mental health.

Unit 2: Core Values and Services is based around the principles of care, service provision and meeting individual needs throughout the life stages. Learners contextualise their own learning to their own locality, understanding the relationship between issues trends and national policy. This is a synoptic unit, drawing on skills and knowledge developed in unit 1.

The WJEC Level 3 Applied Certificate in Health and Social Care qualification is designed for learners to gain the knowledge, understanding and skills required for independent learning and development, these include:

- creativity and innovation
- problem solving, planning and organising
- critical thinking, analysis and evaluation
- independence, teamwork and professionalism

These generic and transferable skills will be developed through application in health and social care and early years contexts.

This qualification includes elements of psychology, social policy and sociology that complement studies in humanities and related subjects.

Assessment

WJEC Level 3 Applied Certificate in Health and Social Care qualification is assessed through a combination of one written examination, set and marked by WJEC and one centre-marked assignment, moderated by WJEC.

What could this qualification lead to?

The main purpose of the qualification is to support access to Higher Education undergraduate degree courses, such as:

- Health and Social Care
- Adult Social Care
- Health and Social Care/Social Policy
- Social Work
- Nursing
- Professional Practice
- Working with Children, Young People and Families
- Psychology and Sociology

This qualification also enables learners to gain the required understanding and skills to be able to consider a wide spectrum of employment within the health and social care sectors.

The WJEC Level 3 Applied Certificate in Health and Social Care is equivalent to 0.5 of a GCE and is ideal as an introduction to the sector. The suite also includes the WJEC Level 3 Applied Diploma in Health and Social Care which is equivalent to 1 GCE A level. The Diploma allows candidates to learn about the Health and Social Care sector in depth whilst still being able to study other Level 3 qualifications.

Who supports the qualification?

Support for this qualification has been given by leading organisations in the health and social care sectors, as well as from the Further and Higher Education sectors. Please click below to view supporting letters.

Further and Higher Education:

[Nursing & Midwifery Dept, Plymouth University](#)

[Swansea University Medical School](#)

[School of Sport, Health and Outdoor Education, University of Wales Trinity Saint David](#)