

# Purpose Statement

## WJEC Level 3 Applied Diploma in Health and Social Care (603/0857/6)

### Overview

#### Who is the qualification for?

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

#### What will the qualification cover?

This qualification will build a firm foundation of knowledge and understanding of practitioner roles and values set within contemporary sector-specific contexts. The qualification will include a breadth and depth of learning, including 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

WJEC Level 3 Applied Diploma in Health and Social Care qualification will offer the following combination of 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
3	Employment within the Sectors	Internal	Optional	90
4	Experience of Disease, Illness and Disability	Internal	Optional	90
5*	Human Behaviour and Development	External (pre-release)	Mandatory	90

*\*Synoptic, unit2 draws on a holistic approach to skills and knowledge developed in unit 1, and the other units, for unit 5*

**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.

**Unit 3: Employment within the Sectors** enables learners to gain a greater understanding of practitioner roles within the health and social care and early years sectors, including the main employment sectors, the demographic, political and technological factors that influence employment, in addition to learning about the principles of care and caring skills, qualities and attributes required to work within the sectors. Learners also have the opportunity to carry out research.

**Unit 4: Disease, Illness and Disability** is based on providing learners with knowledge and understanding of common diseases and illnesses, in addition to a range of disability conditions and impairments. Content will cover: the basic concepts, cause and effect, care management process, legislation and barriers to care, risk reduction strategies and the burden of disability and disease. Learners also have the opportunity to carry out research.

**Unit 5: Human Behaviour and Development** allows the learner to explore the factors that influence an individual's development, including the application of psychological theories and strategies within a range of care settings. This is a synoptic unit, drawing from units 1 and 2 and from the shared elements of units 3 and 4.

The WJEC Level 3 Applied Diploma 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**

The WJEC Level 3 Applied Diploma in Health and Social Care qualification is assessed through a combination of one written examination and one pre-release paper, set and marked by WJEC, and two centre-marked assignments, 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 health and social care sectors.

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

### **Who supports the qualification?**

Support for this qualification has been given by leading organisations in the health and social care industry, 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](#)