

Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Health and Social Care (AAQ)

Board and Specification: Pearson
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This course is available to study alongside two other A levels as a single option.

Subject specific entry requirements*:

5 GCSE'S of 5 and above including;

- Grade 5 or above GCSE Mathematics
- Grade 5 or above in GCSE English Language
- Grade 5 or above in GCSE Science

*Students who do not meet these entry requirements will be considered on the strength of their other subjects, including Health and Social Care GCSE, BTEC or Cambridge National.

What skills are required of students?

- The ability to follow instructions and to meet deadlines
- The ability to study independently and seek support if unsure
- The ability to organise your time and work effectively in and out of the classroom
- The ability to research information and reference sources
- The ability analyse data and reach conclusions
- The maturity to deal with both challenging and sensitive topic
- The understanding that if you miss lessons it is your responsibility to catch up
- To actively participate in class discussions and practical work
- To be polite and well-mannered when interacting with care practitioners and service users.

Course Details

The AAQ in Health and Social Care allows students to develop their skills and knowledge in preparation for further study or the workplace. Students apply their skills and knowledge to offer appropriate care and support and build positive relationships to meet the needs of those they are working with.

The course is refreshing, exciting and the content is up to date. Making it engaging, fit for purpose and suitable for the needs of Health and Social Care Students and professionals of the future.

The qualification has three mandatory units covering the following topics:

- Human Lifespan and Development – PIES and factors affecting growth and development, interventions and the different professionals providing care and treatment

- Human Biology and Health – Human body structure and systems, normal physiological functioning and the impact of common disorders
- Health and Social Care Practice – Core principles, values and legislation that underpin and influence health and social care, and the effect of social determinants on an individual health status

The optional unit covered:

- Safe Environments in Health and Social Care – Appropriate provisions in services relevant to different needs; governance relating to safe environments

The BTEC in Health and Social Care has been developed to meet the changing needs of the sector and prepare students for the challenges they will face in Higher Education or employment. It has been designed in collaboration with experts spanning the breadth of the sector, the BTEC in Health and Social Care focuses on the skills, knowledge and understanding that today's universities and employers demand.

Students will practically apply their skills and knowledge in preparation for further study or the workplace. Students will develop professional and personal skills through interaction with people who either work in the sector or require care or support, as well as theoretical knowledge and understanding to underpin their skills. This will allow them to offer specific, person-centred care and support and build positive relationships with the people they are working with, so that their needs and requirements are met whilst they maintain control of their own care and support.

Students will consider the real impacts to people living with conditions or illnesses such as the social, financial and psychological impacts, not just the signs, symptoms and treatment of faceless conditions or illnesses. Students will also learn about the legislation and guidance supporting Health and Social Care, so that they can ensure the people they are working with are not only able to access all the care and support they are entitled to, but are also able to protect themselves from any harm or abuse whilst at work.

The BTEC National AAQ provides a strong base for progression to university, apprenticeships or work and are recognised for UCAS tariff points*

What kinds of work will you do in class and at home?

Keeping class notes.

Working independently.

Revising key topics.

Writing extended answers.

Preparing challenging discussions.

Following instructions to design a practical research project.

Interacting with care providers.

What other A-levels does your subject connect well with?

The following subjects would be suitable to combine with this qualification:

- Psychology
- Biology
- English

What types of university course will be helped by this qualification?

The qualification is recognised by universities as contributing to the admission requirements for a range of applied Health and Social Care courses including: Occupational Health, Social Work, Education, and Early years, Nursing, Midwifery, Child Psychology, Forensic and Criminal Psychology. Students should, however, always check the entry requirements for degree programmes at their chosen higher education provider.