

OCR Level 1/2 Cambridge National Certificate in Health and Social Care (600/4780/X)

Who is this qualification for?

This qualification is for students aged 14–16 who wish to develop applied knowledge and practical skills in health and social care.

What will the student study as part of this qualification?

All students will study two, mandatory, topics. The first topic of study is on the essential values of care for use with individuals in care settings. This unit covers:

- ways to support people in maintaining their rights
- the values of care
- how these values are important to delivering good care
- how the law and legislation impact on being a carer and working in a care setting.

The second topic of study is on communicating and working with individuals in health, social care and early years settings. Students will learn how to communicate effectively with a range of different people in various situations and understand the personal qualities a carer needs to be able to do this.

In addition, students will have the choice of a further two optional topics to study from the following areas:

- understanding body systems and disorders – how the human body works and what can go wrong
- pathways for providing care in health, social care or early years settings – the way in which care services deliver care to people
- understanding life stages
- planning for employment in health, social care or early years settings
- creative activities to support people in health, social care or early years settings
- understanding the development and protection of young children in early years settings – safe working
- understanding the nutrients needed for good health
- using basic first aid procedures
- research – a project approach which gives students the opportunity to select and research a topic in health and social care in which they are interested.

What knowledge and skills will the student develop as part of this qualification and how might these be of use and value in further studies?

The first two units underpin all of the other learning in this qualification. All students will learn the essential values of care (key to a career in delivering care to other people) and how to communicate effectively in a variety of roles in health, social care or early years' settings.

Depending on the options taken, a student will develop a range of additional skills and knowledge. They can learn and understand, in detail, the life stages and how these impact on the care people

need. They will be able to develop and use creative activities to support individuals in health, social care and early years' settings. Topics such as nutrition and body systems and disorders complement each other and can also support a career in a number of roles in the health and social care sector.

Students who study planning for employment will have a clear career plan to guide them to the further study needed for the role they wish to follow.

In taking the project approach, students will gain knowledge of, and skills in, project management processes such as initiating, researching, planning and reviewing projects, as well as a deep understanding of the topic they investigated.

Which subjects will complement this course?

The Cambridge National Certificate in Health and Social Care is the same size as a GCSE and will take 120 guided learning hours (GLH) to deliver.

The qualification is complemented by a wide range of GCSEs including Biology, Sociology, Maths and English. The qualification is designed with both practical and theoretical elements, which will prepare students for further qualifications in Health and Social Care, Sociology and Biology. It also complements creative subjects such as Art and Design and can be delivered alongside other vocational courses including ICT and Media.

This qualification is part of a larger suite of Level 1/2 Cambridge Nationals in Health and Social Care. The suite consists of this Certificate, an Award, and a Diploma.

The Award is 60 GLH, which is only half of the time it takes to deliver a GCSE and made up of only two topics. The two topics are the same as those required for the Certificate, which are, *Essential values of care for use with individuals in care settings* and *Communicating and working with individuals in health, social care and early years settings*. These two units will give a student a broad overview of essential skills for working in a range of health, social care and early years' settings.

The Diploma is 240 GLH, equivalent in size to two GCSEs and made up of eight topics. To achieve a Diploma all students must take the same two mandatory topics required for the Certificate and then choose six topics from the list of optional topics available for the Certificate-sized qualification. By taking a larger number of topics a student will gain a broader range of knowledge and understanding of different aspects of the work of the Health and Social Care sector.

Schools and Colleges should note that the Certificate-sized qualification is the only qualification in this suite that is eligible for inclusion in Performance Tables.