

Why is Health and Social Care important?

Both Childcare and Health and Social Care are important subjects especially with changes in today's society. Within Health and Social Care, we look at an aging society and what care is available to people, we look at how that care is implemented and how people communicate which is a vital skill for all aspects of life not just in the caring professions. In Children's Play Learning & Development we look at how children develop and what effects a child's development. We look at how professionals impact on a child's development.

The recent Nutbrown review has led to significant changes in this sector with more emphasis on understanding the role of play and more robust qualifications for workers. Children are the future and it is important that their future early year's practitioners have the correct knowledge and skills to ensure they have a successful start.

Students who study these subjects have keen interest in working with people and children and this can lead on to jobs like teaching, nursing, social work and midwifery. We link with a range of local providers who come in and talk to our groups, provide resources and we also link with families who bring in their children to be observed as part of our practical experiences. During Year 10 and in the Sixth Form, students can arrange their own placements and we have strong links with local schools, residential homes and nurseries.



The Department

The Health and Social Care Department consists of Miss Hackney, Subject Co-ordinator, Mrs Mothersdale (AHT), Mrs Soulsby and Mrs Jones. All staff have a wide range of experience and backgrounds in a range of different settings. We are located in the Social Science Base and can usually be found here if not teaching.

Key Stage 3

We cover health and emotional wellbeing issues within Personal Development (PD) looking at relationships, healthy eating, and stress and managing workloads.

Key Stage 4

We offer 3 qualifications at KS4:

- GCSE Health and Social Care (Year 11 legacy)
- BTEC Children's Play, Learning and Development (Level 1/2)
- BTEC Health and Social Care Level 1/2 Tech Award

Students can do both qualifications together.

GCSE Health and Social Care (OCR)

- Unit 1 – Health, Social Care and Early Years Provision. In Year 10 we complete a controlled assessment which is typically based on placement at a local school, nursery or care home. Students spend time working on individual projects looking at the people who use the service, how their needs are met, what barriers may prevent them from accessing the service and the qualifications and qualities of the staff who work there. This is out of 60 marks and is worth 66% of the final grade.
- Unit 2 – Understanding Personal Development and Relationships. In Year 11 students work towards the external exam which involves looking at how people develop through the different life stages, factors which effect development and our different relationships. We also look at how people support each other and how people see themselves defining self-esteem and a key part is based around considering the life events that happen to us and how we access support for these whether it be professional, third sector or informal.

BTEC Children’s Play, Learning and Development (Edexcel)

- Unit 1 – Patterns of Child Development. This unit is assessed by an external examination which is 1 hour long and is worth 50 marks. This is taken in June of Year 10 with re-sit opportunities in Year 11. The paper consists of multiple-choice questions, short scenario-based questions and an extended writing question. In this unit we study the main patterns such as Physical, Cognitive, Emotional, Social and Language development and how adults can help meet the needs of young children in these areas.
- Unit 2 – Promoting Children’s Development Through Play. This coursework unit is also studied in Year 10. The nature of play is that it is enjoyable and motivating for children of all ages. It is used in early year’s settings to support children’s development. We learn that children at different ages/stages of development have different play needs as this is essential in providing play that ensures that children are sufficiently challenged, are engaged, find play enjoyable and learn new skills. We find out about the benefits of toys such as treasure baskets, jack in the box, play dough etc.
- Unit 3 – The Principles of Early Years Practice. During Year 11 we study the final coursework unit. Inclusive practice is the way in which children and their families are valued and support is given regardless of age, disability, race, background, gender or lifestyle in order that children and their families can benefit from the services and opportunities available. We find out about why it is so important to not judge children and their families and how a key person role is vital to keeping children safe and supported.

BTEC Health and Social Care Level 1/2 Tech Award

- Unit 1 – Human Lifespan Development. In this unit students learn about how people grow and develop throughout their life, from infancy to old age. We look at all the factors which can influence a person’s development in all aspects; physical, intellectual, emotional and social. This unit is assessed through a piece of coursework done in controlled conditions
 - Unit 2 – Health and Social Care Services and Values. This unit looks at the services available in the Health and Social Care field, and the facilities and services they offer service users. Students also look at the care values which are implemented to ensure that the service users get a full, and professional experience. This unit is assessed through coursework which is completed in controlled conditions.
 - Unit 3 – Health and Wellbeing. This unit is assessed by a task set and marked by Pearson. It is completed over 3 hours during a given window of opportunity. Students will be given a case study and will assess an individual’s health and well-being, drawing on their understanding of life events studied in Unit 1.
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Key Stage 5

We offer two qualifications in Key Stage 5:

- A level Health and Social Care (OCR) (Year 13 legacy)
- Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Children's, Play, Learning and Development
- BTEC Health and Social Care Level 3 National Extended Certificate

Students can study both HSC and Childcare.

A Level Health and Social Care (OCR)

Over the two years we study 6 units – pupils can opt just to do AS or complete the full A Level. This qualification gives a wide overview of aspects related to all sectors of care and typically students use this to go on to Nursing, Teaching, Midwifery and Occupational Therapy courses at University.

AS course:

- Promoting quality care (Exam)
- Health Promotion (Coursework)
- Communication in Care settings (Coursework)

A2 course:

- Understanding Human Behaviour and Development (Exam)
- Care Practice and Provision (Coursework)
- Child development project (Coursework)

This course involves students giving presentations to younger students on health and time out of school on placements. We also have a wide range of visiting speakers who come to talk about their role and how health and early year's services are planned over time. Please see the 6th Form prospectus for more details.

BTEC Children's Play Learning and Development (Edexcel) National Award

This is a two-year programme, consisting of 4 units being taught over 2 years.

Units studied:

- Unit 1 – Children's Development (Exam)
- Unit 2 – Development of Children's Communication, Literacy and Numeracy Skills (Externally assessed task)
- Unit 3 – Play and Learning (Coursework)
- Unit 5 – Keeping Children Safe (Coursework)

This is an enjoyable course which specifically looks into Children between birth and the age of 8. Students are expected to do some work experience in a nursery or a school setting as part of the course.

BTEC Health and Social Care Level 3 National Extended Certificate

This course can be taken as a one or two-year programme. Completing year 12 will earn students Level 3 National Certificate, and the units are:

- Unit 1 – Human Lifespan Development (Exam)
- Unit 5 – Meeting Individual Care and Support Needs (Coursework)

If Year 13 is successful students will achieve National Extended Certificate, and in addition to the year 12 unit's students will study:

- Unit 2 – Working in Health and Social Care (external assignment)
- Plus an optional unit