

Health and Social Care

Student Guide BTEC First Diploma

What is the Level 2 BTEC First Diploma in Health and Social Care?

The qualification will give you the knowledge, understanding and competency needed when considering entering employment in the health and social care sector. You will gain a grounding in the essential skills and broad fundamentals crucial to this area of study, giving you the opportunity to build on these afterwards by undertaking another Level 2 qualification, or to progress to a qualification at Level 3, or to enter into your first job within this sector.

The course is designed to enable you to study other subjects alongside your BTEC First Diploma. There are five core units plus the choice of a specialist unit totalling 360 guided learning hours. Depending on the locally available programme of study, the structure of the course allows you to develop your interests and gain a broad foundation and introduces you to new areas, such as cultural diversity, anatomy and physiology or individual rights and needs in health and social care.

Where will this qualification take me?

Employment opportunities

Following completion of the BTEC First Diploma in Health and Social Care, successful candidates would be able to enter initial employment, at a junior level, in occupational therapy or social work.

Further vocational and academic qualifications

The achievement of the BTEC First Diploma has the equivalence of 4 GCSEs graded A*-C. If you achieve an overall pass grade or better in the BTEC First Diploma in Health and Social Care, it is possible for you to progress to a higher level qualification such as the Level 3 BTEC National Diploma in Health and Social Care, or to do additional studies at Level 2, such as an NVQ.

How long will it take me to complete this qualification?

Generally speaking, it will take one academic year to complete but it may be studied for shorter or longer periods; the length of the course is largely dependant on the centre where you study.

What are the entry requirements?

The entry requirements for the Edexcel Level 2 BTEC First Diploma in Health and Social Care are laid down by individual centres. You should have the interest and potential to succeed in achieving the qualification and ideally be able to show you have a standard of literacy, numeracy and general education equivalent to four GCSEs graded D-G, or you should be able to show you have undertaken suitable work experience or have completed a Level 1 or 2 qualification.

How can I find out more?

Ask your careers teacher or adviser or your local school or college for more information or see the Edexcel website – www.edexcel.org.uk/btec

Contact us

www.edexcel.org.uk/about/contact

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