

The Edexcel Public Services Diploma

You go to school or college. Sometimes you see your doctor. You may have been in hospital or needed to call 999. You use your local library. Your family puts rubbish out for collection and you walk down well-lit streets at night. These are all public services and our lives would be very different without them.

This qualification will introduce you to all aspects of the UK's public services, which currently employ a fifth of our working population.

You'll learn about:

- How services are funded and the range of skills required from public sector workers.
 - Local communities, who uses services and how they are allocated.
 - Health and well-being services, from Primary Care Trusts to leisure centres and housing.
- How we protect our communities; from anti-terrorist measures to trading standards and fire safety.

Random week at a glance...

- Mon:** Visited Hendon to find out about police training – Sam was well into the forensic and crime scene stuff!
- Tues:** What happens when the public lose faith? Class debate on how MP's expenses have affected our political system.
- Wed:** Public meeting on Riverside development – lots of angry residents.
- Thurs:** Mock panel interview. Scary, but useful.
- Fri:** Debated effectiveness of the government's 5-a-day campaign – good public education or waste of money?

I could be a...

Civil Servant
Fire Officer
Health Professional
Housing Manager
Librarian
Local Government Official
Member of Parliament
Police Officer
Soldier
Teacher

Level 1 1st term snapshot

- Brainstormed ideas to regenerate Hastings town centre.
- Researched how a parent would apply for Disability Living Allowance for a child with special needs.
- Looked at how to set up a Neighbourhood Watch scheme.



Level 2 1st term snapshot

- Work experience checking Lottery Funding applications – didn't realise there was so much to it!
- Designed poster to improve publicity for 'Adult Learning Week'.
- Looked at how the Data Protection Act affects emails in the NHS. Is privacy damaging efficiency?



Level 3 1st term snapshot

- Researched target-setting including response times, waiting times, customer satisfaction, benchmarking and reward systems.
- Handed in my 'Leadership in Action' project, comparing leadership styles in the public sector.
- Team presented PowerPoint on public information on day of London 7/7 bombings. Finished with lessons learned and suggested improvements.

