

NCFE

CACHE

Purpose statement

**NCFE CACHE Level 3 Certificate in Health and
Social Care
QN: 601/6109/7**

Purpose statement

Who is this qualification for?

The Certificate has been designed to support progression to a range of job roles within the health and social care sector. The high level of knowledge and skills required to achieve this qualification also enables you to progress to further learning at Level 4 and above as well as Higher Education (when taken as part of a wider programme of study). UCAS points have been allocated to the Certificate.

You will need to be at least 16 years of age to take this qualification. We do not set any other formal entry requirements, but training providers may have their own.

The qualification has been designed to meet the requirements for inclusion in the Department for Education's 16-19 performance tables as a 'Tech Level' qualification. Tech Level qualifications are for learners who wish to specialise in a technical occupation, in the case of the NCFE CACHE Level 3 Certificate in Health and Social Care, health and social care. The requirements of Tech Level qualifications indicate the qualification's quality and rigour. This Certificate supported by employers and Higher Education institutions.

What does this qualification cover?

This qualification provides you with the knowledge, understanding and skills essential to the health and social care sector, and supports progression to further learning at Level 4 and above, Higher Education and the workplace.

You will need to complete 9 mandatory units to achieve this qualification. The mandatory units are:

- Equality, diversity and rights in health and social care
- Human growth and development
- Safeguarding in health and social care
- Communication in health and social care
- Infection prevention and control in health and social care
- Psychological perspectives in health and social care
- Sociological perspectives in health and social care □ Working in health and social care
- Reflective practice.

Completion of this qualification is achieved through classroom-based learning and supported by placement in a real work environment. You will be required to undertake structured placement in a real work environment to support your learning and develop knowledge and skills relevant to the qualification. There is a minimum requirement of 75 placement hours.

All the units within this qualification are vocationally based. This qualification will take approximately one year to complete.

What knowledge and skills will this qualification give you?

Completion of this qualification will equip you with knowledge, understanding and skills across a range of key subject areas, for example:

- the role of the health and social care practitioner in meeting individuals' needs through inclusive practice
- theories of human growth and development
- the role and responsibilities of the health and social care practitioner in relation to safeguarding individuals
- the role and responsibilities of the health and social care practitioner in relation to infection prevention and control
- functions of national and local health and social care provision □ identifying and planning for professional development needs.

This qualification requires the use of techniques for evaluation, analysis and reflection, and these study skills will benefit you if you choose to progress to Further or Higher Education.

Is this qualification right for you?

This qualification is a good choice for you if you are looking to progress to further education at Level 4 and above. It is also suitable if you wish to progress to Higher Education and are studying the Certificate as part of a wider programme of study.

This qualification is ideal for you if you have already completed the Level 3 Award in Health and Social Care, as you will already have achieved three of the mandatory units for the Certificate. It is suitable if your aim is to progress to further learning at a higher level as it will equip you with a broad range of knowledge, understanding and skills covering a diverse range of subject areas within the health and social care sector.

Although you will not be assessed in a real work environment, this qualification includes practical placement hours as this experience supports your learning.

Why should you take this particular qualification?

You should take this qualification if you want to progress to further learning at Level 4 or above in a related field of study, or if you wish to progress to Higher Education (when taking the Certificate as part of a wider programme of study).

The Certificate enables progression to the NCFE CACHE Level 4 Diploma in Adult Care (England). It also provides direct progression to the NCFE CACHE Level 3 Extended Diploma in Health and Social Care. This qualification is ideal for you if you have already completed the Level 3 Award in Health and Social Care, as you will already have achieved three of the mandatory units for the Certificate.

There are a number of other health and social care qualifications at Level 3:

- **Level 3 Award in Health and Social Care**

The Level 3 Award in Health and Social Care shares three mandatory units with, and provides direct progression to, the Level 3 Certificate in Health and Social Care. The Award may be more suitable if you wish to progress to Higher Education but are taking other larger qualifications as part of a wider programme of study. The Award may also be suitable if you have previous experience of working in the sector but would like to refresh your knowledge.

- **Level 3 Extended Diploma in Health and Social Care**

The Level 3 Extended Diploma in Health and Social Care is suitable if you wish to progress to Higher Education in a related field of study.

- **Level 3 Certificate in Preparing to Work in Adult Social Care**

The Level 3 Certificate in Preparing to Work in Adult Social Care provides the knowledge learning outcomes of the Level 3 Diploma in Health and Social Care. It is suitable if you wish to work towards a career in adult social care, although it does not provide occupational competence. It is a requirement if you are taking the Adult Social Care pathway of the Advanced Apprenticeship in Health and Social Care.

- **Level 3 Diploma in Health and Social Care (Adults) England**

The Level 3 Diploma in Health and Social Care is suitable if you are seeking occupational competence working with adults in the health and social care sector at Level 3. This qualification is a mandatory component of the Level 3 Health and Social Care Apprenticeship.

There are also qualifications in a related field at Level 2.

- **Level 2 Certificate in Preparing to Work in Adult Social Care**

The Level 2 Certificate in Preparing to Work in Adult Social Care provides the knowledge learning outcomes of the Level 2 Diploma in Health and Social Care. It is suitable if you wish to work towards a career in adult social care, although it does not provide occupational competence. It is a requirement if you are taking the Adult Social Care pathway of the Intermediate Apprenticeship in Health and Social Care.

- **Level 2 Diploma in Health and Social Care (Adults) England**

The Level 2 Diploma in Health and Social Care is suitable if you are seeking occupational competence working with adults in the health and social care sector at Level 2. This qualification is a mandatory component of the Level 2 Health and Social Care Apprenticeship.

The CACHE Level 3 Certificate in Health and Social Care is not available as part of an Apprenticeship Framework.

What could this qualification lead to?

This qualification does not provide occupational competence or a licence to practise but will provide you with a broad range of knowledge, understanding and skills to support progression into a wide range of supervised job roles in the health and social care sector at Level 3, including (this list is not exhaustive):

- Care Support Workers in adult residential settings
- Healthcare Assistants in Community, Primary Care and Acute Health Environments
- Care Support Workers in Domiciliary Services, Supported Living or Day Services
- Community-Based Support Workers

You can also progress to further education in a related field of study at Level 4 and above. The underpinning knowledge and skills within the Certificate supports progression to other work-based qualifications including the Level 4 Diploma in Adult Care (England) which could prepare you for supervisory level job roles within the health and social care sector.

This qualification also allows progression to Higher Education when taking the Certificate as part of a wider programme of study. The qualification provides transferrable skills, as well as research and study skills, which will prepare learners for higher level studies.

What subjects will complement this course?

You could study this qualification alongside other subject areas such as sciences, clinical healthcare support, residential care, childcare, other A-Level courses, or GCSE maths and English.

Who supports this qualification?

The qualification is supported by the following Employers:

- Creo Skills Ltd.
- Hertfordshire County Council
- Canterbury Umbrella Centre
- Way Ahead Care
- Care Concern Homecare Ltd.

The qualification is also supported by the following Higher Education Institutions:

- University of Derby
- University College Birmingham.