

NCFE

CACHE

Purpose statement

**NCFE CACHE Technical Level 3 Extended
Diploma in Health and Social Care
QN: 601/8435/8**

Purpose Statement

Who is this qualification for?

The Extended Diploma 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 enables you to progress to Higher Education within health and social care or a related field of study, as well as further learning at Level 4 and above. This qualification has been allocated UCAS points. Please refer to the UCAS website for further details of the points allocation and the most up-to-date information.

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.

This 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 which, in the case of the Technical Level 3 Extended Diploma in Health and Social Care, is health and social care. The requirements indicate the qualification's quality and rigour. The Extended Diploma is supported by employers within the health and social care sector.

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 into Higher Education and the workplace.

You will need to complete 14 mandatory units and four optional 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
- Empowerment in health and social care
- Protection of children, young people and adults in health and social care
- Anatomy and physiology for health and social care
- Research skills for health and social care
- Personal and professional development

There is a wide range of optional units, allowing you to pursue an interest in the specific areas of Social Care, Health Studies and Health Sciences to suit your preferred progression path. Subject areas include:

- Behaviour change in health and social care
- Biochemistry for health
- Community care provision
- Dementia awareness
- Mental health and well-being
- Nutrition for health and social care
- Public health for health and social care
- The role of play for children and young people
- Advocacy in health and social care
- Learning disability

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 175 placement hours (this includes the 75 hours completed during the Certificate).

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

What knowledge and skills will this qualification give you?

Completion of this qualification will equip you with the essential knowledge and skills required to progress to Higher Education in a related field of study, for example:

- the functions of national and local health and social care provision
- the roles and responsibilities of the health and social care practitioner when empowering individuals
- how outcomes of Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews and Safeguarding Adults Reviews inform practise in the health and social care sector
- how to obtain and record physiological measurements
- how to reflect on and plan for personal and professional development within the health and social care sector
- carrying out a research project.

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 Higher Education in a related field of study.

This qualification is ideal for you if you have already completed the Technical Level 3 Certificate in Health and Social Care, as you will already have achieved most of the mandatory components of the Extended Diploma. It is also ideal if you have previous experience or qualifications in this subject area and want to further your studies at undergraduate level.

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 Higher Education in a related field of study. This qualification is ideal for you if you have already completed the Technical Level 3 Certificate in Health and Social Care, as you will already have achieved most of the mandatory components of the Extended Diploma, or if you have previous experience or qualifications in this subject area and want to further your studies at undergraduate level. The wide range of optional units enables you to pursue an interest in specialist subject areas.

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 Technical 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 qualifications as part of a wider programme of study. The Award may be suitable if you have previous experience of working in the sector but would like to refresh your knowledge.

Technical Level 3 Certificate in Health and Social Care

The Technical Level 3 Certificate in Health and Social Care shares nine mandatory units with, and provides direct progression to, the Extended Diploma. The Certificate may be more suitable if you wish to progress to Higher Education but are taking other qualifications as part of a wider programme of study. It is also suitable if it is your intention to progress to further learning at Level 4 and above.

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. 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 Care

This qualification will support learners to develop the knowledge and skills required to work in a range of clinical healthcare support settings and in adult care environments. The content is also aligned with the knowledge and skills required for the Adult Care Worker and Healthcare Support Worker Apprenticeship Standards.

The Technical Level 3 Extended Diploma 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 job roles in the health and social care sector at Level 3, including:

- 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.

The Extended Diploma equips you with the essential knowledge and skills required to progress to Higher Education in a related field of study. The range of optional units allows you to choose your preferred areas of interest and specialisms such as Social Care, Health Studies and Health Sciences. The qualification also provides transferrable skills, as well as research and study skills, supporting progression to higher level studies.

The Extended Diploma also prepares you to progress to further education at Level 4 and above. The underpinning knowledge and skills within the Extended Diploma supports progression to other work-based qualifications including the Level 4 Diploma in Adult Care (England). This could prepare you for supervisory level job roles within the health and social care sector.

What subjects will complement this course?

This qualification could be a full study programme on its own; however, 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:

- Kent Community Health NHS Foundation Trust
- Leicestershire County Council
- Focus Birmingham
- Hertfordshire County Council
- Way Ahead Care
- Care Concern Homecare Ltd