

Health and Social Care

Frequently Asked Questions

What is Health and Social Care?

Health and Social Care is about how professionals/practitioners support the health and wellbeing of individuals. Health and Social Care involves the treatment of health and medical conditions in settings such as hospitals, health centres and the community. Social care is the care and support of vulnerable people, usually in the community. We also consider Early Years provision which combines early learning, care and development of young children.

What topics do you study?

In Year 10 we study:

Essential Values for Care – this is where you will learn how health and social care services and practitioners support an individual's rights, value their diversity and meet their needs. We also look at how practitioners protect individuals from potential harm.

Communication and working with individuals in health and social care - this is where you will learn the different types of communication and how to communicate effectively.

In Year 11 we study:

Understanding Life Stages – this is where you will learn about the stages of development from young people to adulthood. You will also learn about the ageing process and how different medical conditions can impact on development through the life stages.

Understanding body systems and disorders – this is where you will learn about three major body systems, how they work and the disorders that can affect the body systems. You will also learn the ways of measuring the functions of the body systems e.g. pulse rate, blood pressure, peak flow.

What is the Exam board? What is a Cambridge National?

The Exam board is OCR. A Cambridge National is a Level 2 qualification equivalent to a GCSE. It is assessed in a slightly different way and is 'applied'. This means the knowledge you develop can be 'applied' in a vocational setting. This means that everything you learn is linked or relevant to the Health and Social Care workplace.

How many exams are there? "I don't like exams – is this a good subject for me?"

There is an exam unit worth 25% of the final grade so you will have to do an exam! Every mark counts towards the final grade so it is important that you do as well in the exam unit as you do in the NEA units.

Is there any coursework?

There are three NEA (non-examination assessment / 'coursework') units worth 75% of the final mark. It is essential that you are self-motivated, disciplined and can work independently. The NEA is hugely important and starts in Year 10. All NEA work counts towards the final grade so you must be prepared to work solidly all the way through the two years.



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What are the lessons like?

The type of lesson depends on the unit studied at the time. If we are studying the exam unit, the lessons are more 'traditional'. The lessons include teacher-led activities, retrieval practice, preparing notes and knowledge organisers and practising past exam questions and papers. If we are working on the NEA (non-examination assessment/'coursework' units) you will be required to plan your own Action Plans and work independently to ensure you meet the assessment deadlines. You will have to work in your own time to make sure you keep up with the rigorous work schedule.

Do I have to have Health and Social Care to be a nurse/work with children? What careers can I 'do' using Health and Social Care?

No, you do not **have** to have studied Health and Social Care. However, the course does cover a number of useful and relevant topics including developing communication skills, essential skills for working in health and social care setting, understanding body systems and the development through the life stages. All of these provide relevant knowledge should you wish to pursue a career in nursing, social care, medicine or working with children.

There are many career paths available to you if you do choose to study Health and Social Care.

<https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/job-categories/healthcare>

<https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/job-categories/social-care>

<https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/job-categories/teaching-and-education>

<https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/>

<https://www.cache.org.uk/for-learners/choosing-early-years-as-a-career>

<https://www.skillsforcare.org.uk/Careers-in-care/Job-roles/Job-roles-in-social-care.aspx>

<https://www.careerpilot.org.uk/job-sectors/childcare>

<https://www.careerpilot.org.uk/job-sectors/social-care>

<https://www.careerpilot.org.uk/job-sectors/medical>

<https://www.careerpilot.org.uk/job-sectors/therapy>

Can I get in touch if I have any questions?

Yes! Please contact me at

ldover@pymstockschool.org.uk (Mrs Lorna Dover)

