

Health & Social Care

The Health and Social Care and Early Years sector is a major employer in the public, voluntary and private sectors in Northern Ireland.

Entry requirements

A-Level Health and Social Care is available to all students. Assessment in Health and Social Care requires students to demonstrate their quality of written communication. Students who obtain at least a Grade B in English Language at GCSE will be given preference.

Health and Social Care is a course particularly aimed at students who think they would like to work in the following areas:

- Caring services - social work, youth and community work, probation, housing, counselling or advice work.
- Health services - nursing, midwifery and health-visiting.
- Working with small children – childcare, teaching.

Students currently studying this course have enjoyed the practical aspects due to completing a period of work experience in various care settings. As a result of this they have been able to use their own experiences in care settings to successfully complete two coursework modules to a high standard.

Students who wish to study A Level Health and Social Care must complete 6 Units by the end of Year 14.

AS

In the AS units, students learn about good quality care and how this can be achieved in Health, Social Care and Early Years settings. You will learn how to communicate effectively with service users in the work place. You will also learn about the importance of health and well-being for individuals, and how government and other agencies contribute to the health and well-being of the population.

Scheme of Assessment

AS Unit 1	Promoting Quality Care Internal (80 marks)	Students produce a written report based on practices in a Health, Social Care or Early Years setting.
AS Unit 2	Communication in Care Settings Internal (80 marks)	Students produce a written report based on communication in a Health, Social Care or Early Years setting.
AS Unit 3	Health and Well-Being External – 2 hour exam (100 marks)	This unit gives students the opportunity to learn about health and well-being and the factors which affect it.

A2

At A2 level students will continue to study three new Units of the Health and Social Care course. Two of which will be internally assessed and one will be a pre-released case study external assessment.

A2 Unit 3	Providing Services External (Pre-release) 2 hour exam (120 marks)	This unit provides an overview of service provision in Health, Social Care and Early Years.
A2 Unit 4	Health Promotion Internal (100 marks)	Students undertake a health promotion activity and report their findings.
A2 Unit 5	Supporting the Family Internal (100 marks)	Students produce a case study of a family, outlining the needs of individuals and support provided for families.