Cambridge Technical Diploma

Health & Social Care



A two year course (equivalent to 2 A levels)

Course Content

Over the course of two years you will study 12 units exploring many aspects and issues relating to working within the Health, Social Care and Early Years sectors. This qualification will be the core of your study programme with 1 or 2 other A levels taken alongside it enabling you to successfully apply for an HE degree or employment.

There are a number of mandatory units that are a combination of coursework and examined units. Topics covered in these units include:

- Building positive relationships (coursework)
- Equality, diversity and rights (exam)
- Health, safety and security (exam)
- Anatomy and Physiology (exam)
- Infection control (coursework)
- Safeguarding (exam)
- Personalisation and a person-centred approach to care (exam)

Additionally other coursework units would include:

- The impact of long term physiological conditions
- Supporting people with learning disabilities
- Nutrition for health
- Supporting people with mental health conditions
- Care of Older People





Work Experience

In addition to classroom teaching and coursework there will also be a total of 3 weeks work experience during the 2 years in a range of care settings including: nurseries, primary schools, hospitals and residential homes. This is invaluable in relation to helping you make an informed career choice and supports your university application.

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Methods of teaching

Examined units are taught in a classroom environment but the course is also very student-centred so you will be participating in presentations, group work and discussions. You will develop independent research skills and also learn to work as a team member through a variety of practical tasks and activities linked to your coursework units.

How will I be assessed?

During each of the 2 years of study you will participate in coursework units, which will be internally marked and externally moderated and undergo a total of 5 exams (which must be passed) to gain the qualification. The exam format will include multiple choice, short answer questions, diagram labelling and essay type answers.

Financial Implications

Work placements require you to hold a valid police check (DBS). The cost for this is approximately £44. You will also be required to pay for your travel to a work placement. You are advised to purchase a £25 text book at the start of each year. An additional photocopying charge of £10 will be required to cover the cost of providing booklets of support material at the beginning of each year.

Career Progression

This course will enable you to apply for university degrees in subjects such as nursing, midwifery, occupational therapy, radiography and paramedic science. Also degrees in social work, primary teaching or youth studies. It will make you employable in the areas of health, social and early years care or give you access to higher apprenticeships.

Minimum Entry Requirements

5 GCSEs at grade A* - C, including Maths and English.