



AAQ Health & Social Care

What will I study?

The Health and Social Care AAQ explores how professionals support individuals across a range of health, wellbeing, and care contexts. You'll study key topics such as human growth and development, safeguarding, equality and diversity, communication in care, and the roles and responsibilities of health and social care practitioners. You will also learn about current issues affecting the sector, including the impact of legislation, government policy, and working in multidisciplinary teams. Throughout the course, you'll apply your knowledge to real-world scenarios, developing practical and vocational skills essential for work in health, social care, and early years settings. You'll build confidence in person-centred approaches, professional values, and reflective practice.

How will I be assessed?

The AAQ in Health and Social Care is assessed through a blend of externally marked exams, which test your understanding of key concepts, theory and sector knowledge, and internally assessed coursework, which gives you the opportunity to apply your learning to case studies, practical tasks and work-related scenarios, ensuring you are evaluated on both your academic knowledge and your ability to use professional skills that reflect real-world health and social care practice.

What are the entry requirements?

To study the Health and Social Care AAQ, you will need five GCSEs at grade 4 or above, including English Language. A good level of literacy is important because the course involves extended writing, analysis of scenarios, and evaluation of professional practice. An interest in working with people, strong communication skills, and a willingness to engage in vocational learning will support your success in this course.

Where will this course lead?

The Health and Social Care AAQ provides a strong foundation for progression into a wide range of future pathways, including health and social care-related university courses, careers in nursing, midwifery, paramedicine and allied health professions, as well as roles in social work, youth work, early years education, public health, community work and mental health support; it also supports progression into Level 3–5 apprenticeships within health and social care settings, further study at Milton Keynes College, and higher education routes in healthcare, social sciences, education and support services, preparing you for careers focused on care, advocacy, safeguarding, wellbeing and professional support across diverse settings.

What combines well with this subject?

Health and Social Care combine effectively with subjects such as Biology, Psychology, Sociology, Criminology. These subjects enhance your understanding of human behaviour, health, wellbeing, and the social factors that affect people's lives. They also support progression into healthcare, education, and public service careers.