

Here are some case studies of last year's students:



**Abbey, Georgina
and Vicki:**

- Abbey is going to study Psychology
- Georgina is going to study Mental Health Nursing
- Vicki is going to study Social Work



**Ameena, Naydia,
Sarah and Alana:**

- Ameena is going to study Primary School Teaching
- Naydia is going to study Nursing
- Sarah is going to study Midwifery
- Alana is going to study Audiology



Why choose Health and Social Care?

Health and Social Care is different from other AS courses offered at Greenhead because the emphasis is just as much about developing your skills as it is about gaining knowledge. Understanding how to communicate with and care for patients, clients or children is vitally important to those working in a caring profession and this will be an important part of your course. You will study topics from a variety of subject areas, including Biology, Sociology and Psychology. Another of the main differences is that Health and Social Care is mainly assessed by portfolio work: two out of the three units are assessed in this way. Bear in mind that this does not make it an easy option – there is a lot of work involved!

In the second year of your course, you can carry on to gain an A-level qualification.

What units will I study?

The AS award consists of the following three units:

1. Effective Caring

In this unit, you will learn about a range of issues which are important for anyone working in Health and Social Care. Everyone needs to feel valued and that they are making the choices that affect their lives. There are ethical and practical reasons for treating people well. Those working in a Health and Social Care environment need to be able to recognise a person's needs and create trust with their clients. You will learn about the wide range of Health and Social Care services, including the NHS, Early Years and those for the elderly. This unit is examined.

2. Effective Communication

Those who work in Health and Social Care must have good communication skills. In this unit, you will prepare a talk, which lasts about five to 10 minutes, about good practice in communicating with one type of client in a care setting. You will give this talk to the other members of your class. You will design a questionnaire to gain feedback about the effectiveness of your talk, and analyse the responses to your questionnaires. The talk and the report you produce will form the portfolio on which you will be assessed.

3. Health, Illness and Disease

You will learn about how vaccines work and why they are important for babies and those travelling to remote countries. You will learn about screening procedures in pregnancy, babies and adults and discuss its value. You will investigate the attitude of a group of people of your choice to health issues such as alcohol, diet, obesity and smoking by means of a questionnaire, and evaluate the results.

What other subjects go well with Health and Social Care?

Our current students study a wide variety of subjects, including Psychology and Sociology, PE, Business Studies and English. Applied Science is a good choice if you are interested in nursing or another medically-related profession, because it follows the same coursework-based approach. If you want to be a teacher, you should do another National Curriculum subject as well, such as English, Applied Science or PE.

Will I enjoy a portfolio – based subject?

Ask yourself these questions:

- How do you learn best? Do you enjoy researching information for yourself and organising it into a really good piece of coursework?
- Do you find examinations very challenging and find that they don't allow you to show what you can really do?
- Are you well-organised and good at meeting deadlines?

If these things apply to you, Health and Social Care may well be a good choice for you.



What careers could Health and Social Care lead into?

All of last year's students went on to university to study for careers in areas such as nursing, primary teaching, occupational therapy and social work. Students also went on to do degrees in Business Studies and Psychology.