



## Health & Social Care – NVQ Level 2

Course Code: NHSC02

Awarding Body: TBC

Duration: 06-12 Months

### Introduction

An estimated three million people are employed in the health and social care sectors in the UK. Driven by the government requirements across the UK to modernise and raise standards in these sectors, there is an increasing need to recruit, retain and develop the skills of this workforce.

### Course Aims

The Level 2 NVQ qualification is aimed at home care assistants, community support assistants, healthcare assistants and residential or day service assistants.

The qualification is for care workers who support and assist individuals with their physical or emotional care, daily living needs or maintaining their independence - usually working under supervision.

### Course Market

This NVQ is for those working in a Health or Social Care setting.

It is suitable for:

- ❖ full or part time workers, paid and voluntary, permanent or temporary as well as day or night workers, supporting adults of any age, in any setting.
- ❖ individuals working with either older people or children and young people in essential care environments, day care settings or palliative care.
- ❖ people who work with individuals to support and assist them with their physical or emotional care, daily living needs or maintaining their independence.
- ❖ care assistants, health care assistants, home care assistants and community support assistants, residential or day service assistants.
- ❖ for those working with people with learning disabilities or challenging behaviour.

### Course Structure

The Level 2 qualification contains 6 units. All candidates who are employed in the **social care** sector must be assessed in the 4 core units plus 2 optional units from a choice of 28. The Optional Units cover wide range of areas including domiciliary care and work, which may cover personal and physical care needs, aspects of health care needs, as well as supporting recreational, developmental or therapeutic activities.

Candidates employed in the **health care** sector may undertake the 4 core units and 2 optional units or 2 core units and 2 optional units plus 2 other units from the core or optional units or 3 core units and 3 optional units.

The Level 2 additional units are for continuing professional development (CPD) only and do not form part of the overall qualification structure.

#### Core Units:

HSC21	Communicate with and complete records for individuals
HSC22	Support the health and safety of yourself and individuals
HSC23	Develop your knowledge and practice
HSC24	Ensure your own actions support the care, protection and well-being of individuals

#### Please check the List of Optional and Additional Units for NVQ Level-2 in Health & Social Care

Employers in the social care sector anywhere in the UK should ensure that their employees take the four core units and two units from the options. If the employer is in the health care sector they can decide that candidates take two core units, two optional units and a further two units which can be from the core or options.

### Duration

As the qualification consists of work based assessment, the duration would vary between 06 to 12 months depending on the outcome of the continuous assessment.

## Assessment

The qualification is a work based award and candidates' skills and knowledge are assessed in the workplace whilst they are working directly with individuals and colleagues. They must be working in a real health or social care setting on a full or part time basis and in paid or voluntary work. If candidates require any additional training prior to assessment this can be based in or out of the workplace or by distance or elearning.

**Performance evidence requirements:** Evidence of candidate performance will usually be derived from assessor observation or testimony from an expert witness of the candidate carrying out real work activities in the workplace. In order to complete the qualification, candidates must provide evidence of experience from caring for more than one individual, except in circumstances where a carer is working for only one individual for the total period of their assessment.

**Knowledge evidence requirements:** Candidates must be able to apply the specified knowledge and understanding to their work practice and therefore, most usually, knowledge and understanding will be apparent in candidates' performance evidence. Professional discussion will be conducted to elicit underpinning knowledge, explain how to deal with contingencies and clarify or expand on evidence presented portfolios.

**Simulation:** Simulation is restricted and is limited to just one element within one unit.

## Entry Requirements

There are no formal entry requirements for candidates undertaking this NVQ, however candidates must have the potential and opportunity to gain evidence for the qualification in the work place.

This NVQ is not approved for the use of those who are under 16 years of age. There may also be age restrictions placed on individuals when undertaking certain work activities within Health and Social Care. These too should be clarified with the appropriate regulator where there is any uncertainty about such restrictions.

## Exemptions

Some candidates may have completed few units as part of an NVQ, which can be transferred directly into this qualification by presenting the original certificate to the centre. This is all that is required so long as the unit previously achieved is identical to the one in the qualification and that authenticity has been established.

### Accreditation of Prior Experience and Learning (APEL)

Some candidates for this qualification may have undertaken training in the past and will be experienced in Health and Social Care. Therefore opportunity is provided for candidates' prior experience and learning to be assessed and accredited. This will form part of the candidates' initial assessment.

## Progression

The NVQ will enable progression within and between levels and across both sectors.

Laterally it will allow candidates who complete the requirements for a full NVQ to take up Continuing Professional Development opportunities through the optional and additional suites of units. Vertically they will allow movement up to another level across both sectors.

The Health and Social Care units will support progression in employment in the following specialist areas:

- ❖ Management – residential adults, children and young people and domiciliary work
- ❖ Drugs and Alcohol work
- ❖ Mental Health work
- ❖ Youth Justice work
- ❖ Rehabilitation work (especially for people with sensory impairments)
- ❖ Some generic areas of Health
- ❖ Social Work.