

An Introduction to Health and Social Care

Intent

Health and Social Care, at The Abbey School, aims to give students in KS4 the opportunity to study how people grow and develop over the course of their lives, from infancy to old age, and the factors that may affect this. Students will learn about the different health and social care services and the importance of making sure that people who use these important services get the care they need and that its delivery maintains dignity, choice and independence.

In Key Stage 4, the student develops a range of key skills. They interpret data relating to a person's health and design a plan that will enable them to improve the health and wellbeing of their study.

In Key Stage 5, the student will learn how to research and interpret data relating to current issues in health and social care. The topics from Key Stage 4 are also revisited in further detail but an introduction of key theories and legislation presents a bigger challenge to the more mature students.

Naturally, as part of the course, Health and Social Care students in both Key Stage 4 and Key Stage 5 are encouraged to consider a range of moral and ethical dilemmas that may arise and are particularly pertinent within the health and social care field. Furthermore, they are actively encouraged to become independent learners and to fully immerse themselves in the specialist vocabulary - taught to extend students' knowledge, understanding and to link to their future careers.

Implementation

As part of the department planning process, we offer opportunities to our students to ensure that there is consistent implementation of pedagogy and policy across the department.

We offer the following:

- A knowledge organiser which outlines knowledge (including key tier 2 vocabulary) that all students must master
- A group of lessons for each topic, which carefully plans for progression and depth; moving from Pass to Merit and Distinction
- A short topic test to ensure understanding
- Challenge questions for pupils to apply their learning in a philosophical/open manner
- Trips and visits from experts to enhance the learning experience

Our staff are provided with:

- Quality assurance of their marking through standardisation within the department
- Regular training to keep up to date with changes in BTEC specifications, which is particularly pertinent at this time

Impact

Research shows that around three million people in the UK work in Health and Social Care, which is why our subject is so critical. Students will be given information on career paths linked with Health and Social Careers and many go on to employment within these fields. There are opportunities to progress to roles in medicine; as a doctor, pharmacist, nurse, midwife, healthcare assistant and medical administration. In Social Care students may progress to roles that include: care assistants, social workers, occupational therapists and counsellors. The demand for staff in

both Health and Social Care is likely to continue to rise, so it is sure to continue to play a key role in UK society and the demand for people to fill these vital jobs will increase.

Our Health and Social Care curriculum is planned carefully to allow student to be successful and progress to their next phase. This is, if students on the course at Key Stage 4 and Key Stage 5 are following the curriculum carefully and keeping on track with their learning. Our students typically meet their BTEC target of Pass, Merit and Distinction and achieve good progress.

The impact of the curriculum is measured through:

Students meeting the BTEC criteria of Pass, Merit, Distinction and achieving their target grade

- Tracking of knowledge in end of topic tests
- Pupil discussions about their learning
- Careers/ apprenticeships and university outcomes post Key Stage 4 and Key Stage 5 – Many of our students leave and go onto study University courses/apprenticeships in the Health or Social Care sector.