Pearson Level 3 Alternative Academic Qualification BTEC National in Health and Social Care (Extended Certificate)

Vision statement - Health and Social Care at Ridgewood School aims to equip students with a broad and varied knowledge of the health and social care sector.

This ranges from how humans develop over their lifespan; to the roles and responsibilities of HSC workers; how individuals with additional needs can be supported in their care and to how our nutritional intake influences our health. Students will investigate a rage of human biology topics, from the body systems to arrange of illnesses and diseases. The course aims to provide students with an understanding of how to meet the needs of individuals in HSC settings, looking at providing both safe environments and to develop skills and qualities such as empathy that will enable them to challenge stereotypes and encourage anti-discriminatory practice. The units we study to give students a variety of knowledge and experiences in their HSC journey, and to optimise the impact of our staff specialism.
The course includes a mixture of coursework and exam units, which are followed so that they build upon each other as the students' understanding grows throughout the year. This allows the students to embed

their knowledge and allows them the opportunity put it into practice with a balance of coursework and exams at a manageable pace.
Through the study of this curriculum, students are able to develop as tolerant and educated citizens who are prepared for their chosen career path or next steps, particularly if this is within the HSC sector.

Why study Health and Social Care at The Sixth Form at Ridgewood?

- Studying Health and Social Care Level 3 National AAQ will provide an introduction to the health and social sector.
- It is for students who are interested in learning about the health and social care sector as part of a balanced study programme. It is equivalent to one A level.
- The qualification supports access to a range of higher education courses, but not exclusively in health and social care, if taken alongside further Level 3 qualifications.
- We are a well experienced team made up of specialist teachers from a range of variety of different backgrounds with extensive experience of Health and Social Care related areas.
- We are able to work collaboratively with colleagues from different health and social care settings along with colleagues from universities.

What topics will I study in this subject and how will they be assessed?

Topic	What this means
Unit 1: Human lifespan development	External assessment written exam. Students examine physical, intellectual, emotional and social development across the human lifespan, the interaction between biological and social factors in health and wellbeing and how health care professionals provide effective care.
Unit 2: Human Biology and Health	External assessment written exam. Students explore the organisation, structure and normal physiological functioning of the human body, and the effect on health of common disorders of the body systems.
Unit 3: Principles of Health and Social Care Practice	Internal assessment coursework. Students focus on the principles that underpin meeting the care and support needs of individuals, which are the foundation of all services within health and social care.
Unit 6: Safe Environments in Health and Social Care	Internal assessment coursework. Students will explore the importance of safe working practices, professional responsibilities and record keeping in maintaining safe environments and quality care in line with national standards in health and social care settings.

What skills will I need in this subject?

Skill	What this skill involves in this subject
Analysis	Your lessons and independent study work will involve analysis. This means you will be given data and information that you will need to research, and you will be required to write at length about your findings. You will need to give detailed explanations and justify your choices.
Research skills	As part of your coursework you will be expected to use research skills to investigate different areas of health and social care. You will be presented with areas to research, use a variety of sources, and justify their relevance.
Evaluative Skills	Students will evaluate the impact and effectiveness of services in meeting the needs of different service users and be expected to make justified recommendations underpinned by health and social care concepts and principle.

What will my lessons involve?

- We will discuss key terminology and identify areas that you must independently research.
- In theory lessons you will listen to key information about a topic area and create sets of notes to support your coursework or revision for the exam.
- You will conduct independent research using a variety of sources including internetbased health and social care resources, reports, statistical data and websites and the wealth of health and social care books and guides we have available in the Sixth Form.

- A large proportion of lessons will be spent completing coursework in controlled assessment conditions. Some of this time will be spent researching a variety of sources as well as completing extended writing tasks and practical application of skills.
- Some lessons will involve listening to specialist speakers.

What will my independent study involve?

- In order to gain the highest grades in the exam you must complete at least 1 hour of independent study for every lesson. During these sessions you are expected to produce revision resources that will prepare you for the exams.
- In class you will have identified your gaps in knowledge so it will be clear which areas you need to work on. Examples of this are creating mind maps, creating revision flash cards and self-quizzing.
- You may also have to complete work collaboratively such as completing a group presentation on a given area of the exam.
- For coursework, your independent study will involve research and exploration of areas related to the content and scenarios presented in the assignment brief.

How do I know this is the right course for me?

- You will be a strong independent learner who can analyse written and numerical information accurately.
- You will relish the challenges of researching, conducting and analysing data.
- You will enjoy working collaboratively and prefer a combination of coursework and exam. One of the challenges is time management as there are lots of deadlines and managing both coursework and exam content at the same time can be difficult. It is important that you plan from the very beginning of the course your independent study time in school and at home so that you have a clear plan of when you will complete work. This is especially important if your combination of subjects means that you have other coursework to complete.
- This course is ideal for students who wish to go into a career in the caring profession or pursuing a career in health and social care sector.