

Health and Social Care

Statement of Intent

Health and Social Care is the study of the biggest employment sector in the UK and the world. The Covid-19 pandemic demonstrated the value of the practitioners working in these sectors and the organisations as a whole, both within the UK and globally. Throughout the study of Health and Social Care our students will gain a broad understanding of health and social care within the wider contexts of different environments and settings where care takes place, the importance of effective communication, legislation and the principles behind the person-centred approach and care values and how this is applied in the sectors. Our students will develop transferable skills, such as; communication, research, planning and organisation skills. Through carefully selected optional units such as; Infection Control, Mental Health and Sociology in HSC our students get a broad appreciation of workplace practices and a broad understanding of the types of people that access care and support services and how they can be put at the heart of the care and support they receive. On achieving this qualification at either Extended Certificate or Diploma, our students are able to progress onto Higher Education on a health and social care-related programme such as; Nursing, Social Work or Early Childhood Studies or into a different field of study having developed the skills needed to be successful. At Raynes Park, Health and Social enables our students to develop both academically, and as well rounded individuals who are able to demonstrate empathy and understanding to those in their direct and wider communities.

Key Stage 5 Curriculum

At Raynes Park, students will study OCR Cambridge Technicals Level 3 in Health and Social Care, either as a single award on the Extended Certificate or the double award on the Diploma. Students will complete 6 units on the Extended Certificate, of which 3 will be externally assessed in the form of exams and 3 will be coursework units. These will be externally moderated by the exam board. On the Diploma, students will study 12 units which are comprised of 5 exams and 7 coursework units over two years.

Extended Learning

What we offer to extend the learning of our students

Students in KS5, within their tutor programme and supervised study have the opportunity to access extended reading materials eg. nursing times. Students will be guided by the department to do further reading on relevant topics and ideals.

Trips, where possible, will be arranged by the department to museums, care settings and places of interest as the course progresses. Outside speakers will visit where possible to give further insight into topics eg. Safeguarding and to discuss careers such as; Nursing, Midwifery etc.

Work experience at the end of Year 12 would be an ideal opportunity for students to gain experience as a practitioner in a care setting.

What can parents do to support extended learning in this subject

Students should and are expected to keep up to date with current affairs by watching and/or reading reputable news providers, parents/ carers can encourage this at home. Students should access documentaries and programmes such as Panorama and 24hrs in A&E etc, as well as programmes advised by their class teachers on topics linked to the specification. This is to extend understanding of the health and social care sector. Discussions around the programmes watched will improve communication skills and recall in order for students to use relevant examples in their course and classwork.

Trips to the Science Museum, the V&A Childhood museum and to relevant exhibitions should be encouraged in order to extend learning. Volunteering would also be an excellent thing for students to do in a health, childcare or social care field.

