

HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE DEPARTMENT

The Health & Social Care Department at Weatherhead is staffed by a hardworking and committed team of three teachers and additional teaching staff. Student attainment is high at all levels, with many students going on to study at Advanced Level. Our A Level ALPS scores for Health & Social Care have been consistently in the top 25% of the country; an outstanding achievement. The department is constantly striving to raise attainment, through curriculum development, focusing on teaching and learning strategies, sharing good practice and continued evaluation of all aspects of Departmental work, in order for the students to realise their highest possible potential.

At Key Stage 4 the following courses are offered:

NCFE CACHE Level 2 Award in
Child Development and Care

Pearson BTEC Technical Award in Health and
Social Care

At Key Stage 5 the following courses are offered:

BTEC Level 3 National Diploma in Health & Social
Care (single and double awards)
BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Health
& Social Care (single and double awards)
NCFE CACHE Level 3 Technical Diploma in
Childcare and Education (EYE) NCFE CACHE Level
2 Certificate in an Introduction of Early Years
Education and Care

Health, Social Care and Early Years.

Vocational health, social care and early year's courses offer students the opportunity to learn about themselves and others through a variety of teaching methods and learning strategies. Oral presentations, displays, group and individual activities and written assignments focus on a wide range of spiritual, moral, social and cultural issues, these being integral to the vocational area being studied.

Across all levels in the Health & Social care programme specific units of work raise student awareness of the role they play in influencing events relating to themselves and others. Through large and small group activities students are encouraged to relate positively to others, within the classroom and also in the community.

The use of work placements allows students to focus on their role in the community and also offers the opportunity to meet a variety of client groups. Guest speakers offer students an insight into potential careers. In order to further develop community awareness local playgroups, nurseries, schools and residential homes form a part of the department's programme, at all levels.

It is through these areas that the department intends to:

- Encourage student progress and achievement through the use of differentiated material and a more flexible approach to their studies
- Acknowledge student accomplishment through a positive monitoring system, thus improving self esteem
- Reinforce and improve key skills and caring skills
- Stimulate the ability to discuss and accept other people's opinions
- Encourage students to take responsibility for their own learning
- Promote co-operative behaviour
- Raise awareness of potential.

The Health & Social Care Department recognises the value of extra curricular activities and opportunities to involve pupils in outside visits and challenges are fully utilised. We have a range of facilities to enhance and support the curriculum.