

Pyrland School

Health and Social Care

Curriculum Booklet for 2026-2027

Subject Lead: Miss Smith

Midsomer Norton Schools Partnership

Health and Social Care Curriculum Intent:

"To cure sometimes, to relieve often, to comfort always", Maya Angelou

Pyrland is a mixed ability comprehensive school where learners go on to a variety of post-16 Colleges to complete a selection of different courses, one of which is Bridgwater and Taunton College. The Health and Social Care Tech Award at Pyrland School is an ambitious, inclusive and coherently planned vocational qualification that enables all learners to acquire the essential knowledge and skills needed for progression to Bridgwater and Taunton College onto their level 3 Health and Social care courses, apprenticeship route or the T.Level program.

The curriculum is deliberately designed to build on the foundational knowledge from Key Stage 3, particularly in English, Mathematics, Science, PSHE and PE, and to apply these core disciplinary skills within meaningful, real-life vocational contexts. It enhances and complements the theoretical knowledge taught in subjects such as GCSE Biology by enabling students to practically apply learning in ways relevant to future careers and further study.

Students are supported in developing a strong understanding of sector-specific content, including:

- Human growth and development across life stages.
- Health and social care services and the roles of professionals.
- Factors affecting individual health and wellbeing.

Alongside this, learners develop and embed key practical and transferable skills:

- Analysing and interpreting physiological and lifestyle data.
- Designing effective, personalised plans to improve health and wellbeing.
- Demonstrating care values through practical scenarios that reflect real-world settings.

Ultimately, the curriculum is designed to empower learners which prefer a different style of learning and assessment from the traditional teaching of GCSE's with the skills, knowledge, and confidence to succeed in the next stage of their education or training, and to make a meaningful contribution to society within the health and social care sector.

Health and Social Care Curriculum Implementation:

The Health and Social Care curriculum at Pyrland School is coherently planned and sequenced to equip learners with a broad, balanced understanding of key concepts in health and social care. Although some prior learning, such as basic physiology and heart rate monitoring links directly to Component 3, the majority of content is new, reflecting the specialist nature of the qualification. As such, the curriculum is carefully sequenced to ensure students can make rapid progress, regardless of their starting points.

The curriculum is ambitious for all learners, including those with SEND and other vulnerabilities, and is implemented in a way that ensures high expectations, appropriate support, and challenge across all components.

After a standing start, each lesson begins with a set of Do Now questions that consolidate prior learning. Throughout the lessons, teachers use responsive methods such as mini-whiteboards, hinge-questioning and cold calling to monitor student learning to inform them when they need to step in to reteach an idea or address misconceptions. At the end of each topic area students will complete an assessment to test their knowledge and for the teacher to be able to address any area's that need further teaching to ensure they students fully understand the topic.

Extended writing is a key feature of the assessment process, with students expected to communicate information and ideas clearly and effectively in contextually appropriate ways. This promotes literacy, critical thinking, and evaluative skills essential for further study and employment in the sector.

High-quality teaching and adaptive practice underpin curriculum delivery. Learning tasks are carefully tailored to students' individual target grades, ensuring equitable access and fostering strong progress for all learners, including those with additional needs. Differentiated resources, clear PowerPoints, and structured assignment timelines support all learners in achieving or exceeding their targets.
The course is structured focusing on the completion of a controlled assessment in component 1 and component 2. This is 60% of the final grade awarded. Component 3 is an examined component worth 40% of the final grade.

Independence and personal responsibility are explicitly developed throughout the course. Students are encouraged and supported to manage their time effectively, meet coursework deadlines, and engage proactively with feedback. These strategies promote self-regulation, resilience, and a readiness for the demands of post-16 education and training.

Allocated Curriculum Time:

Lessons per fortnight	**Year 10**	**Year 11**
	6	**6**

Year 10 Health and Social Care Programme of Study
Exam Board: Edexcel
Exam Specification: BTEC Tech Award level 1/2 in Health and Social Care

Term	Curriculum Foci	Formal Assessment
1	**Component 1 Human Lifespan Development** Students study how people grow and develop through the six life stages: infancy, early childhood, adolescence, early adulthood, middle adulthood, and later adulthood. They learn about the physical, intellectual, emotional, and social development that happens at each stage. Students explore the various factors that influence a person's development. This includes genetic inheritance, lifestyle choices, and emotional wellbeing, and how these factors affect development over time.	**Life stages** **Time:** 40 mins **Marks:** 40 marks
2	**Component 1 Human Lifespan Development** Students learn to identify various factors influencing an individual's growth and development, focusing on how genetic inheritance, lifestyle, and emotional wellbeing affect different aspects of development over time. Students examine how life events—such as changes in relationships, life circumstances, health, injury, and wellbeing—can impact a person's physical, intellectual, emotional, and social (PIES) development and overall health.	**Life Events and Factors** **Time:** 40 mins **Marks:** 40 marks
3	**Component 1 Human Lifespan Development** Students study how individuals adapt to or are supported through life changes. They learn that people respond differently to the same life event and explore factors influencing these reactions, including personality traits and available support systems.	**Effects of Life Events** **Time:** 40 mins **Marks:** 40 marks
4	**Component 1 Human Lifespan Development (Controlled Assessment)** This term will focus on preparation for, and completion of the externally set internally assessed coursework for this unit which is worth 30% of the final grade.	**PSA 1 – Lifestages and Life Events** **Time:** 6 hours **Marks:** 60 marks
5	**Component 2 Health and Social Care Values** Students will study common healthcare conditions, including their symptoms, effects, and management. They will also learn about various healthcare services and their main roles.	**Health Care Services** **Time:** 40 mins **Marks:** 40 marks
6	**Component 2 Health and Social Care Values** Students will learn about various social care needs and how available social care services meet them. They will understand the difference between formal and informal care and the types of support each offers. Additionally, students will identify barriers to accessing health and social care services and ways to overcome these barriers.	**Barriers to accessing care** **Time:** 40 mins **Marks:** 40 marks

Year 11 Health and Social Care Programme of Study
Exam Board: Edexcel
Exam Specification: BTEC Tech Award level 1/2 in Health and Social Care

Term	Curriculum Foci	Formal Assessment
1	**Component 2 Health and Social Care Values (continued)** Students study the skills and attributes essential for effective care, including understanding the 6Cs framework that guides professional behaviour in health and social care settings. They explore personal challenges faced by care recipients and how these affect them. The unit concludes with an examination of how care skills, attributes, and values positively impact those receiving care.	**Skills and Attributes of care workers** **Time:** 40 mins **Marks:** 40 marks
2	**Component 2 Health and social Care services and values (Controlled Assessment)** This term will focus on preparation for, and completion of the externally set internally assessed coursework for this unit. The students will have preparation time and then supervised controlled assessment time.	**PSA 2 – Care Services and Values** **Time:** 6 hours **Marks:** 60 marks
3	**Component 3 Health and Wellbeing (Examined Unit)** Students will explore how factors such as genetic inheritance, lifestyle, social inclusion and culture can affect an individuals health and wellbeing (both positively and negatively). **This links and extends knowledge developed in Component 1**, however here the focus is more on current health and wellbeing, rather than development over life stages.	**Factors affecting development** **Time:** 40 mins **Marks:** 40 marks
4	**Component 3 Health and Wellbeing (Examined Unit)** Students learn how physiological indicators like pulse rate, blood pressure, BMI, and heart rate are used to monitor and assess health. They practice taking these measurements and interpreting results, including recognising abnormal readings and their potential short- and long-term health impacts. Additionally, students identify practical barriers individuals face when accessing health and social care services and explore ways to overcome them.	**Mock Exam: Health and Wellbeing** **Time:** 2 hours **Marks**: 60 Marks
5	**Component 3 Health and Wellbeing.** This is the examined unit. Students will have time to revise topic areas, practice exam questions and work through past papers.	

Final GCSE Assessment Structure:

Component	Weighting (%)	Content	Proposed PSA Deadline / Examination Date
1	30%	**Controlled Assessment: Human Lifespan and Development** Students have 6 hours to complete a written task.	Coursework Deadline 11th December 2026
2	30%	**Health and Social Care Services and Values** Students have 6 hours to complete a written task.	Coursework Deadline 26th March 2027
3	40%	**Final Examination: Health and Wellbeing** Students sit a 2-hour paper, comprised of 60 marks.	4th May 2027

Please see exam board websites for up to date information: Health & Social Care (2022) | BTEC Tech Award | Pearson qualifications

"An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure."
Benjamin Franklin