



Access to Higher Education – Allied Health Professions



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Subject Area	Health & Social Care
Course Type	Access to Higher Education
Study Level	Level 3
Delivery Mode	Full-time
Location	David Hockney Building
Duration	1 Year
Start Date	September 2026
Course Code	PA000344

Course Summary

Take the first step towards a career in healthcare with our Access to Higher Education Diploma in Allied Health Professions.

This one-year course is designed specifically for adults returning to education who are aiming to progress into university and a rewarding role in the healthcare sector. Whether you're interested in physiotherapy, occupational therapy, radiography, paramedic science, or another allied health profession, this course provides the foundation you need to succeed.

You'll explore subjects such as professional healthcare practice, where you'll examine how people are cared for across society, including key issues like health inequalities and access to care. The course offers a broader focus than the Access to HE Diploma in Midwifery, giving you more flexibility in your career choices.

With a strong emphasis on study skills, critical thinking, and independent learning, this programme is designed to prepare you fully for the rigours of university-level study.

You'll develop the tools you need to thrive in a fast-paced academic environment – from effective research and academic writing to time management and interview preparation.

Induction for this course will begin at the start of September.

What You Will Learn

You will develop skills in:

- Independent Research
- Referencing (Harvard)
- Critical Thinking and Evaluative Skills
- Word Processing (including the use of footnotes)
- Time Management
- ILT (Information and Learning Technology – including the use of Virtual Learning Environments and the library online)
- Solving or Offering Solutions to problems

Modules

Throughout

the Access to Higher Education Diploma in Allied Health Professions, you'll develop the academic, professional, and personal skills essential for success at university and in a healthcare career. You will also undertake the following modules to support your chosen area of study:

- Introduction to Cell Biology
- Homeostasis, Co-ordination and Control of the Excretory System
- Carrying out a Practical Investigation (Biology)
- Biomolecules and Key Biochemical Principles
- Cardiovascular, Respiratory and Gastro-intestinal Systems
- Anatomy and Physiology of the Human Skeleton and Muscles
- Introduction to Professional Healthcare Service and Practice
- Principles of Safeguarding in Health and Social Care
- Research Project (Professional Healthcare Practice)
- Social and Community Welfare Provision
- Preparing to Progress
- ICT – Presentation Software
- Developing Skills for Studying
- Effective Communication in Health and Social Care

All units within our Access courses are compulsory.

Entry Requirements

- Entry to this course requires GCSE English Language, Maths and Science at a grade 4 or C. Dependent upon your progression route, level 2 qualifications may be accepted.
- You are at least 19 years old on 1st September.
- You must make sure your Maths and English qualifications are accepted for the degree course you want to progress onto after completing the Access Diploma.
- Some universities may accept 12 credits of science from the Access to HE course as an alternative to a GCSE in science. In these cases, we would have a conversation with the student to check whether your chosen degree allows this substitution. It is the students responsibility to check the GCSE requirements of their chosen university.

Progression

This qualification is well established and widely accepted by universities. Successful completion of this diploma can lead to degree-level study in areas such as:

- Operating Department Practice
- Physiotherapy
- Occupational Therapy
- Paramedic Science
- Radiography
- Other health and life science degrees

This will also enable you to progress to university for further study or into a career within the healthcare sector. A high percentage of Access to HE students have been successful in progressing to the university of their choice.

Disclaimer: Our prospectus, college documents and website are simply here to offer a guide. We accept no liability for any inaccurate statements and are not responsible for any negative outcomes if you rely on an inaccurate statement. We reserve the right to withdraw any programmes or service at any time.