

Access to Higher Education – Nursing & Midwifery



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Subject Area	Health & Social Care, Science
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	PA000346

Course Summary

Ready to take the next step towards a career in nursing or midwifery? Our Access to Higher Education Diploma in Nursing and Midwifery is your pathway to university and a life-changing profession in healthcare. This one-year course is designed for adults aged 19 and over who are passionate about delivering compassionate care and supporting individuals and families at some of the most critical moments in their lives. Whether you're aiming to become a nurse or midwife, this programme equips you with the academic knowledge, confidence, and practical skills to succeed at university and beyond.

You'll study a combination of health and science modules tailored to nursing and midwifery, exploring areas such as anatomy, healthcare ethics, human biology, and professional practice. Alongside subject knowledge, you'll also build essential skills in academic writing, research, and critical thinking. As part of your learning experience, you'll benefit from a range of enrichment opportunities, including:

- A taster day at the University of Bradford, where you'll attend subject-specific

lectures and connect with current students

- A visit to the Thackray Museum of Medicine in Leeds to explore the history of healthcare and deepen your understanding of patient care
- Workshops in nutrition, CPR training, and even a British Sign Language taster session
- Support from our dedicated academic librarians to help you develop effective study and referencing skills

What You Will Learn

In addition to the skills gained in Biology and Social Issues, you will also develop skills in independent research, critical thinking and evaluative skills, study skills, interview skills, and interpersonal skills. Your learning materials will be accessed online, in units, at set times throughout the course. You will work through your materials as advised. You will have access to your tutors online. You will be supported through individual and group tutorials within a virtual classroom space. By the end of the course, you'll be fully prepared for the demands of higher education and ready to apply for degree-level study in:

- Adult Nursing
- Child Nursing
- Mental Health Nursing
- Midwifery
- Or other related health and social care fields

Modules

- Introduction to Cell Biology
- Carrying out a Practical Investigation (Biology)
- Biomolecules and Key Biochemical Principles
- Homeostasis, Co-ordination and Control and the Excretory System
- Human Reproductive Biology
- Cardiovascular, Respiratory and Gastro-intestinal Systems
- Introduction to Issues in Health and Social Care
- Research Project (Social Issues in Healthcare)
- Health and Social Care Provision

- Mental Health and Wellbeing
- Principles of Safeguarding in Health and Social Care
- Developing Skills for Studying
- Preparing to Progress
- ICT – Presentation Software

Entry Requirements

- Entry to this course requires GCSE English Language, Maths and Science at a grade 4 or C.
- You are at least 19 years old on 1st September.
- Some Universities will accept 12 credits at Distinction in the Biology units of this course in lieu of GCSE Biology. It is your responsibility to check that your Mathematics and English Language qualifications are accepted for the Higher Education Institution course you wish to eventually apply for. Induction for this course will begin at the start of September.
- We 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

Successful completion of this course can lead to progression to further education or employment in the Health industry in a role related to Nursing and Midwifery. You will develop the necessary skills to progress onto Higher Education.

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.