

## Oral Health Practitioner Level 4

The Oral Health Practitioner role complements the role of other dental professionals and fits in the dental career structure as a higher level than a dental nurse, but below a dental hygienist, hygienist / therapist or dentist. Working to the direction of a dentist you will take dental bacterial plaque indices and debris scores, apply fluoride varnish, take clinical photographs, take impressions and carry out tooth brushing in the patient's mouth. You will work autonomously, including in people's mouths, acting within your scope of practice and under referral of a registered clinician e.g. Dentist, Dental Hygienist or Dental Therapist whilst undertaking dental activities. Topics include: Care of the Individual. Clinical Practice. Community Based Oral Health. Communication. Professional Development



- ✓ Equivalent to Higher National Certificate (HNC)
- ✓ 18-month programme (includes end point assessment)
- ✓ Monthly classes – face to face/online (class timetable will be given on enrolment)
- ✓ Online portfolio through Aptem
- ✓ Assessor assigned for regular support online, by telephone or email

### Entry requirements:

- Must have Maths and English grade C/4 or above
- Must already be a qualified dental nurse
- Must have employer support to meet the requirements of clinical activity in the workplace

### Employers must agree to:

- Support the trainee practitioner in the workplace by prescribing the application of **fluoride** and **impressions**, and signing off these clinical activities
- Support the trainee to carry out **intra and extra oral photography** (if available in practice)
- Refer patients and support the trainee practitioner to take **dental bacterial plaque indices and food debris scores**
- Allow the trainee practitioner to **produce a display** in an area of the practice
- Support the trainee practitioner to arrange individual and a group delivery of **oral hygiene instruction sessions**

### End point assessment – NCFE

- MCQ Multiple choice exam
- Observation of practice and questioning
- Professional Discussion (based on clinical activity)

Link to standard for further information on content [Oral health practitioner / Institute for Apprenticeships and Technical Education](#)