



Health and Social Care Curriculum Intent

Health and Social Care enables students to understand one of the most important aspects of modern society: how individuals grow, develop and are supported throughout their lives. At a time of increasing demand for health and care services, students gain knowledge of the factors that influence well-being, the challenges people face, and the ways in which society promotes positive outcomes for individuals and communities. Through studying Health and Social Care, students develop empathy, informed judgement and a deeper understanding of the diverse experiences that shape people's lives.

The subject makes a distinctive contribution to the Hodgson Academy curriculum by combining academic study with an understanding of human development, equality, care and social responsibility. Students explore how physical, intellectual, emotional and social development changes across the lifespan and how biological, environmental and social factors influence individual outcomes. This knowledge helps students understand both themselves and others, fostering compassion, respect and a commitment to promoting well-being.

Our curriculum is built around the core concepts of human growth and development, person-centred values and support. These concepts are carefully sequenced to develop secure understanding and increasingly sophisticated application. Students begin by exploring life stages and developmental milestones before examining factors that affect development, barriers individuals may face and strategies used to support positive outcomes. As their knowledge develops, students learn to apply theoretical understanding to realistic scenarios, considering how care services meet individual needs while promoting dignity, independence and choice.

Literacy is central to success in Health and Social Care. Students develop and confidently use specialist vocabulary linked to development, well-being and care practice. Through discussion, case study analysis and extended written responses, students learn to communicate ideas clearly, justify decisions using evidence and evaluate approaches to supporting individuals. These disciplinary literacy skills prepare them for further study and enable them to engage thoughtfully with contemporary issues affecting health and society.

Health and Social Care broadens students' horizons by exposing them to a wide range of life experiences, cultures, needs and perspectives. Through the study of diverse individuals and communities, students develop an appreciation of equality, diversity and inclusion. They learn to challenge discrimination, recognise barriers to participation and understand the importance of ethical practice within modern Britain. This encourages students to become informed, respectful citizens who value and contribute positively to their communities.

The subject supports personal development by encouraging students to reflect on their own attitudes, values and responsibilities. Through examining real-life situations and contemporary issues, students develop emotional intelligence, resilience, ethical awareness and the confidence to make informed decisions. The values of empathy, respect and responsibility are embedded throughout the curriculum and reflect the school's commitment to developing caring and compassionate young people.

Students also gain an understanding of how the knowledge, skills and behaviours developed within Health and Social Care are valued in further education, employment and wider life. The subject provides insight into one of the UK's largest employment sectors while developing transferable skills including communication, teamwork, problem-solving and critical thinking. These foundations support progression into a wide range of future pathways and enable students to make meaningful contributions to society.

Through high expectations, expert teaching and carefully designed learning experiences, we aim to inspire students to become knowledgeable, compassionate and socially responsible individuals who understand the importance of promoting health, well-being and quality of life for all.