

The intention of Health and Social Care at Melton Vale is to equip students with the skills to become active social citizens. The specification offers ample opportunity for students to reflect upon their own personal development and to understand their role within the wider communities in which they live. Health and Social Care empowers learners by equipping them with valuable knowledge and life skills. For example, students gain a detailed knowledge base about human growth and development at each life stage and an understanding of specific barriers which prevent some social groups from accessing care services.

The vocational nature of the course means that students are required to relate their classroom learning directly to a range of professional working environments. The course prepares students with a practical and realistic understanding of how to meet the needs of individuals using a range of services and specialist equipment. Students are academically challenged and encouraged to use technical and specialist terminology used by professionals and policy makers within the sector.

Through core and enrichment curriculum experiences, learners build on their understanding of British values including democracy, the rule of law, tolerance and respect. This equips learners with a deep understanding of the philosophy of which care values and principles are based. Students understand the importance of anti-discriminatory working practices and are encouraged to challenge stereotypical assumptions. Learners will explore the impact of professional incompetence by studying numerous contemporary examples. This enables them to fully understand the range of professional responsibilities which exist within the sector.

The learner-led nature of the course develops desirable employability characteristics such as leadership and resilience. Students are encouraged to participate through collaborative learning structures, such as team work and peer assessment designed to develop autonomous independence.

Developing partnerships with external providers extend opportunities for learning. Students are encouraged to participate in work based placement, attend talks from guest speakers and to complete online or external learning activities. This is particularly important as a significant number of students at Melton Vale apply to work in health related professions.