

Your Chances in Society, Health and Development

What jobs can I do in Society, Health and Development?

Society, Health and Development is concerned with the health and well-being of people of all ages. This includes children's services, health, adult social care and community justice. The variety of jobs available is huge. You could work for the NHS or a local authority, in children's homes, care homes, day centres and hospitals. While the NHS is the largest employer in the health sector, there are also job opportunities in independent and voluntary organisations, private companies and charities. Other areas include social work, educational welfare, secure and offender accommodation and supported housing. Roles include care assistants, youth support workers, nursery nurses, teaching assistants, police community support officers.

Our ageing society will increase the demand for staff in the health sector. The need for workers who care for the vulnerable is also likely to go up as recent high profile cases result in further measures to safeguard these groups. Government strategy should lead to more opportunities for well qualified childcare staff.

Improving your chances of finding a job in Northumberland

Be proactive – work based learning providers often expect you to find your own employer for your apprenticeship. Contact employers directly for vacancies and placements.

Gain skills – there are vacancies in youth work, social care and health care for people with the skills, experience and qualifications required by employers; communication and team work skills.

Look for voluntary work – some sectors will have opportunities to gain experience, e.g. childcare.

References are important and you will need a CRB (Criminal Records Bureau) check which your employer should pay for.

What qualifications do I need?

Most employees in the sector have level 3 qualifications (equivalent to A levels/NVQ level 3). It is a **requirement** for some roles to gain at least a level 2 NVQ. Childcare and Health & Social Care courses are available in some high schools but you'll need further qualifications and training to get a job in the sector.

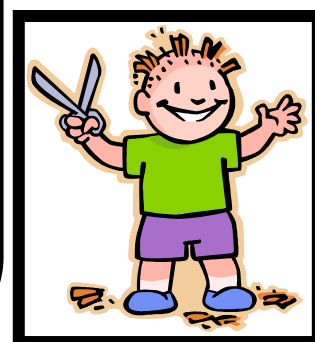
A new qualification is being introduced into schools and colleges called a Diploma. **Diplomas** in Society, Health and Development will be available in Northumberland from September 2010. They will be available from September 2009 in Newcastle at all 3 levels: Foundation, Higher and Advanced.

Level 1 courses include BTEC Introductory Diploma in Health & Social Care and CACHE Foundation Award in Caring for Children. GCSEs at grades E-G are required.

Level 2 courses include BTEC First Certificates/Diplomas in Childcare, Learning & Development and Health & Social Care, NVQ Health & Social Care or Childcare Learning & Development and CACHE Diploma in Childcare & Education. You will need 4-6 GCSEs at grades D-E.

Level 3 courses include NVQs in Health & Social Care, Childcare, Learning & Development, BTEC National Certificate/Diploma in Childcare, Learning & Development, CACHE Diploma in Childcare & Education, National Certificate/Diploma Health & Social Care. You will need 5-7 GCSEs at C and above including English and Maths.

Foundation Degree courses are offered locally in Early Years Practice, Working with Young People and Applied Health & Social Care.



So if I need experience and training how will I get that in Northumberland?

The best option for you may depend on where you live in Northumberland. You may need to travel if you want to attend a college course.

1. Through an apprenticeship - combine working with gaining qualifications including an NVQ. In Northumberland you can do an Apprenticeship and Advanced Apprenticeship in Health and Social Care but you will need to find an employer. Alternatively you could start a programme led apprenticeship at college which will include a work placement. This can lead to an employed apprenticeship.

2. A full-time college course such as a BTEC First Certificate in Health and Social Care or a CACHE Diploma in Childcare and Education or the new Society, Health and Development Diploma.

3. E2e courses provide a taster if you are not ready for an apprenticeship. In Northumberland you can take a level 1 qualification on e2e and progress to a programme led apprenticeship and a level 2 qualification in childcare.

Schools and colleges change their courses every year so check with your PA or local college for full details.

What's my chance of getting a job in Northumberland?

Most jobs in Society, Health and Development in Northumberland require qualifications at least at level 2 or 3 **so gaining further qualifications or training after leaving school will help your chances of getting a job.** You are unlikely to get a job in childcare at 16 without getting some training and experience first. You may need to be 18 to work in adult care. In 2008 1% of young people leaving Year 11 in schools in Northumberland to start training or a full-time job went into healthcare or childcare. That's only 5 young people. Many more will be employed having completed a relevant full-time course.

There are 672 providers of childcare in the County. Most of these are childminders, but there are also day care facilities and crèches. The health and social care sector employs over 149,000 in the North East of England, almost 9% of the workforce. 80,000 health care workers are employed by the NHS in the North East. The number employed has risen over the last 10 years. Approximately 14% of the current health care workforce will retire by 2013. **If you can get some training and experience the industry is expected to require more workers in the future.**

Useful contacts for further information

Connexions Northumberland - (01670) 798 180

www.connexions-northumberland.org.uk

Northumberland College - (01670) 841 200

www.northland.ac.uk

Tyne Metropolitan College - (0191) 229 5000

www.tynemet.ac.uk

Newcastle College - (0191) 200 4000 www.ncl-coll.ac.uk

Northumberland prospectus

www.northumberland.14-19.org.uk

National Apprenticeship Vacancy Matching Service

www.apprenticeships.org.uk

www.connexions-direct.com - open jobs4U page for job info.

Northumberland Adult Learning Services (NALS) -

(01670) 533687 www.northumberland.gov.uk

Zodiac Training 0845 330 8184 www.zodiactraining.co.uk

IntrainingNTP - (0114) 289 8400

Access Training Centres (0191) 4770840

For general information on childcare log on to

www.surestart.gov.uk or www.childcarecareers.gov.uk

Pay

On an apprenticeship you can expect to earn a minimum of £80 a week (£95 from August 2009). If you are on a programme led apprenticeship or e2e course you will be entitled to apply for EMA. Example starting salaries include: nursery nurses £10,000, care assistants £12,500.

Where will I find vacancies?

Vacancies are advertised in local newspapers, in Jobcentres and Connexions Centres. For childcare vacancies and local providers look at www.childcarelink.gov.uk.