

Level 1/2 Vocational Award in
HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE
(Technical Award)

QUALIFICATION GUIDE



ABOUT THIS QUALIFICATION

The Eduqas Level 1/2 Health and Social Care Vocational Award provides learners with a comprehensive introduction to this vital and rapidly evolving sector.

WHY STUDY HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE?

Health and Social Care is a growing sector offering a diverse range of career opportunities. With over 350 different roles available and the sector projected to create an additional half a million jobs by 2030, students will gain critical insights into a field that currently employs almost 1.5m people in the UK.

WHO IS THE QUALIFICATION SUITABLE FOR?

Our Level 1/2 Health and Social Care Vocational Award has been designed as a vocational alternative or supplement to GCSE qualifications for 14-16 year old learners in schools and colleges.

It offers a structured pathway to understanding the diverse career opportunities in health and social care, and provides an excellent foundation for further study that in turn would support learners' progression to employment.

WHAT DOES THE QUALIFICATION COVER?

The qualification consists of two units:

- **Unit 1: Health, well-being and development throughout the lifespan** (48 Guided Learning Hours)
- **Unit 2: Outcome-focused and person-centred practice in health and social care** (60 Guided Learning Hours)

Learners will develop their knowledge and understanding of health, well-being and development throughout the lifespan.

Key topics include the value of person-centred practice, safeguarding and modern-day challenges to health and wellbeing.

This qualification is designed to reflect current sector standards and allows learners to develop their knowledge and understanding of health, wellbeing and development through a blend of theory and practice.

SUMMARY OF ASSESSMENT

Unit 1: Health, well-being and development throughout the lifespan

Written Examination: 1 hour 20 minutes, 40% of qualification

Questions requiring short and extended answers, based around applied situations. Learners will be required to use stimulus material to respond to questions.

Unit 2: Outcome-focused and person-centred practice in health and social care

Controlled Assessment: 16 hours, 60% of qualification

Two assignments will be provided by Eduqas which will include:

- Assignment 1: a case study and several tasks
- Assignment 2: a scenario and several tasks

These will be available via the Eduqas/WJEC Portal.

How do we compare with other boards? See our [Qualification Comparison Tool](#) at the end of this guide

WHY CHOOSE EDUQAS FOR VOCATIONAL AND APPLIED?

Our L1/2 Vocational Award in Health and Social care is part of our suite of Technical Awards. Each qualification shares these key features:

- **Simple qualification structures** minimise the number of assessments students must complete while simplifying administration.
- **Clear, straightforward specifications** set out what students need to know, understand and be able to do.
- **A minimum of 60% non-examination assessment (NEA)**, providing students with the opportunity to demonstrate their skills, knowledge and understanding through practical and engaging tasks.
- **Mark-based awarding** - this means that learners can still achieve the qualification if they don't perform well in a particular assessment, providing their performance in another unit compensates for this.
- **Course companion textbooks** available for each qualification covering the knowledge and skills learners will need as they progress through the course.
- **E-Assessment opportunities** All of our Level 1/2 Vocational Awards offer opportunities for E-Assessment, allowing learners to complete exams on-screen.

How do we compare with other boards? See our [Qualification Comparison Tool](#) at the end of this guide

GETTING STARTED WITH EDUQAS

Getting started with Eduqas for Vocational and Applied qualifications is a straightforward, three-step process:

1

Register your interest in teaching with Eduqas

Visit [eduqas.co.uk/vocational](https://www.eduqas.co.uk/vocational) and complete the Register Your Interest form. This helps us better support you through the process of getting started with Eduqas.

2

Ask your Exams Officer if your centre is registered with Eduqas

If not, they will need to contact us at centres@wjec.co.uk to register. Once your centre is registered, your Exams Officer can provide you with access to our Portal, which you will need to complete key processes and access exclusive resources.

3

Visit your qualification page for everything you need to get started

You can find this by going to [eduqas.co.uk/qualifications](https://www.eduqas.co.uk/qualifications) and searching for your subject. Here you'll find links to everything you need to start teaching with Eduqas:

- Your specification
- Guidance for teaching
- Contact details for your Subject Officer
- Free digital teaching resources
- Training opportunities
- Key dates for your qualification
- Past Papers and Mark Schemes

Now you're ready to start teaching with Eduqas – but if you need more guidance, contact our Support Team on hereforyou@eduqas.co.uk, or discover training opportunities at [eduqas.co.uk/professionallearning](https://www.eduqas.co.uk/professionallearning)

COURSE COMPANION TEXTBOOK



This book has been written specifically for the Eduqas Level 1/2 Vocational Award in Health and Social Care course. This book is suitable for students of all abilities and covers the knowledge and skills they will need as they progress through the course.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Madhulata Patel is an experienced practitioner and academic who has worked across the statutory, third, independent and academic sectors. She has worked as a practitioner in diverse contexts, including community regeneration and youth work, mental health, learning disability, domestic abuse and homelessness.

Madhulata is an academic who is experienced in course leadership, teaching, supervision, assessments, and the writing of learning content for different qualifications.

Order for your copy now using our [online order form](#)

PROFESSIONAL LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

Eduqas offers a comprehensive range of professional learning opportunities to help you teach with confidence.

Our expert-led training programme provides all the support you need to enhance your teaching and successfully deliver our qualifications.

ASSESSMENT FEEDBACK PACKAGE

Our Assessment Feedback Package is an opportunity to gain a deeper understanding of how assessments are marked or moderated.

This integrated suite of resources and training includes:

- Free access to Principal Examiner reports
- Free Online Assessment Feedback sessions
- Paid face-to-face training events
- Free access to scripts

Learn more: [eduqas.co.uk/professionallearning](https://www.eduqas.co.uk/professionallearning)




ACCESSING SUPPORT

Our **Regional Support Team** operates across the UK, and is available to help you teach Eduqas qualifications with confidence.

As an Eduqas teacher, you can access their support for free online or in-person at a time and place that suits you.

Each member of the team is an experienced former teacher who understands the challenges of the classroom.



They can provide you with all the support you need to help your learners succeed, including:

- help getting started with Eduqas
- expert insight into your specification
- answers to your questions on assessment
- guidance on accessing our free digital resources, and more.

Contact the team:
hereforyou@eduqas.co.uk

MEET YOUR EDUQAS REPRESENTATIVE



ANT FLEMING

“The role of Regional Representative lets me support teachers in delivering Eduqas qualifications confidently.

I believe supporting teachers is crucial to success. It's important for teachers to have someone to consult, benefiting students and schools alike. Each day is different, but my focus is always on helping teachers. The most rewarding part is when teachers feel more confident after our meetings.”



Chauvan Harding

“I have 17 years of experience in the classroom teaching Business education. I've held several roles during that time, such as Vocational lead, Second in faculty and Head of department. I also continue to work part time as a Lecturer of Business education and lead PGCEs in Business Education

What's impressed me most about Eduqas so far is their commitment to providing this support. Everyone is really passionate about education, and the level and quality of support given to teachers is really unique. For example, the brilliant range of free teacher and student resources on offer.”

Want to learn more? Contact at hereforyou@eduqas.co.uk, or [request an informal online chat through our booking page](#).

WJEC Eduqas
245 Western Avenue
Cardiff
CF5 2YX

029 2026 5465

info@eduqas.co.uk
www.eduqas.co.uk



WJEC CBAC Ltd is a limited company by guarantee, registered in England and Wales (no. 3150875) and is registered charity (no. 1073332)

All information correct at time of publication (Dec 2024)



UNCOVER
LEARNER
POTENTIAL



Level 1/2 Vocational Award in
HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE
(Technical Award)

QUALIFICATION COMPARISON TOOL

STRUCTURE AND GRADING COMPARISON

	Eduqas Level 1/2 Vocational Award in Health and Social Care (Technical Award)	Cambridge National in Health and Social Care	BTEC Tech Award in Health and Social Care
Structure	<p>2 Units:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unit 1 - Exam • Unit 2 - NEA 	<p>3 Units:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unit 1 - Exam • Unit 2 - NEA • Unit 3 - NEA or Unit 4 - NEA 	<p>3 Units:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unit 1 - Exam • Unit 2 - NEA • Unit 3 - NEA
Grading	<p>The qualification grades are awarded on the following 8 scales:</p> <p>Level 2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Distinction* (*2) • Distinction (D2) • Merit (M2) • Pass (P2) <p>Level 1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Distinction* (*1) • Distinction (D1) • Merit (M1) • Pass (P1) • Unclassified 	<p>The qualification grades are awarded on the following 7 scales:</p> <p>Level 2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Distinction* (*2) • Distinction (D2) • Merit (M2) • Pass (P2) <p>Level 1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Distinction (D1) • Merit (M1) • Pass (P1) • Unclassified 	<p>The qualification grades are awarded on the following 7 scales:</p> <p>Level 2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Distinction* (L2D*) • Distinction (L2D) • Merit (L2M) • Pass (L2P) <p>The Level 2 Distinction* grade at qualification level will be awarded only if a student has achieved a Level 2 Distinction in each component.</p> <p>Level 1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Distinction (L1D) • Merit (L1M) • Pass (L1P) • Unclassified

ASSESSMENT COMPARISON

Eduqas Level 1/2 Vocational Award in Health and Social Care (Technical Award)

Unit 1 - Health, well-being and development throughout the lifespan

1 hour 20-minute exam (80 marks)

- WJEC set and marked
- 40% of qualification

Unit 2 - Outcome-focused and person-centred practice in health and social care

Mandatory NEA (120 marks)

Two assignments provided by Eduqas:

- Assignment 1: a case study and several tasks
- Assignment 2: a scenario and several tasks

These will be available via our Secure Portal

Centre-assessed and moderated by Eduqas.

Cambridge National in Health and Social Care

Unit R032: Principles of care in health and social care settings

1 hour 15-minute exam (70 marks)

- OCR-set and marked

Unit R033: Supporting individuals through life events

Mandatory NEA (60 marks)

- OCR-set assignment
- Centre-assessed and moderated by OCR
- Approx. 10-12 hours required for assignment

Unit R034: Creative and therapeutic activities

Optional NEA (60 marks)

- OCR-set assignment
- Centre-assessed and moderated by OCR
- Approx. 10-12 hours required for assignment

Unit R035: Health promotion campaigns

Optional NEA (60 marks)

- OCR-set assignment
- Centre-assessed and moderated by OCR
- Approx. 10-12 hours required for assignment

BTEC Tech Award in Health and Social Care

Component 1: Human Lifespan Development

Mandatory NEA (60 marks)

- Pearson-set assignment
- Centre-assessed and moderated by Pearson
- Approx. 6 hours formal supervision

Component 2: Health and Social Care Services and Values

Mandatory NEA (60 marks)

- Pearson-set assignment
- Centre-assessed and moderated by Pearson
- Approx. 6 hours formal supervision

ADMINISTRATION COMPARISON

Eduqas Level 1/2 Vocational Award in Health and Social Care (Technical Award)

- Assessment series available in June during year 10 and in January and June during year 11.
- Terminal rule applies: Examined Unit 1 must be taken in the final assessment series before qualification certification.
- The unit 2 brief is released in September each year for submission during the same academic year.
- Administration is the same as for any other Eduqas qualification - no additional forms to complete and all administration can be performed using our secure portal website.

Cambridge National in Health and Social Care

- Two assessment series available each year in January and June.
- Terminal rule applies: Examined Unit R032 must be taken in the final assessment series before qualification certification.
- The result from the exam taken in the final series will be the one that counts towards a student's overall grade.
- Students can take the exam before all the NEA units are completed. This is classed as a 'practice attempt'.
- Unit R033 and an optional unit chosen from R034 or R035 can be submitted in any series but must be submitted either before or in the same series as the externally assessed unit.
- OCR-set assignments for non-examined assessed (NEA) units are live for one year. Candidates have one resubmission opportunity. Resubmission of the same work must be in a series that falls in the live assessment dates for the OCR-set assignment on which the work is based. All re-submissions must be based on the assignment that is live for the submission series.
- Familiar administration for exam officers.

BTEC Tech Award in Health and Social Care

- External assessment of Component 3 for this qualification is available twice a year in January/February and May/June.
- Terminal rule applies: students can only use the external assessment results achieved in the same assessment series in which they are requesting certification for the qualification.
- Students are permitted one resit of an external assessment prior to certification by taking a new assessment.

Components 1 and 2

- Assignments released twice a year:
- October release for December/January moderation (from 2023)
- February release for May/June moderation (from 2023)
- New assignments released twice a year for each component. Centres must use these assignments for summative assessments. Assignments must be completed under supervised conditions.
- Students must complete and achieve an outcome for all three components and achieve the minimum number of uniform marks at a qualification grade threshold.

UNIT COMPARISON

	Eduqas Level 1/2 Vocational Award in Health and Social Care (Technical Award)	Cambridge National in Health and Social Care	BTEC Tech Award in Health and Social Care
Unit 1	<p>1.1 Key physical, intellectual, emotional and social aspects that affect growth and development across the lifespan of individuals.</p> <p>1.2 Key aspects that affect growth, development, health and well-being across the lifespan.</p> <p>1.3 Factors that shape self-concept and personal development.</p> <p>1.4 The physical indicators used to measure health and how these can be interpreted.</p> <p>1.5 The role and purpose of promoting health and well-being</p>	<p>Topic Area 1: The rights of service users in health and social care settings</p> <p>Topic Area 2: Person-centred values</p> <p>Topic Area 3: Effective communication in health and social care settings Teaching content Breadth and depth</p> <p>Topic Area 4: Protecting service users and service providers in health and social care settings</p>	<p>Learning outcome A: Understand human growth and development across life stages and the factors that affect it</p> <p>Learning outcome B: Understand how individuals deal with life events.</p>
Unit 2	<p>2.1 The range of individual needs across the lifespan</p> <p>2.2 The different types of health and social care provision and how key professionals, family and friends, work together to support individuals to maintain health and well-being</p> <p>2.3 The roles of key professionals within the health and social care sector</p> <p>2.4. Practitioners' responsibilities and accountabilities within the context of legislative frameworks, standards and codes of conduct and professional practice</p> <p>2.5 Safeguarding and legislation</p> <p>2.6 The current changing demands for care on the health and social care sector and individuals.</p>	<p>Topic Area 1: Life stages</p> <p>Topic Area 2: Impacts of life events</p> <p>Topic Area 3: Sources of support</p>	<p>Learning Outcome A: Understand the different types of health and social care services and barriers to accessing them</p> <p>Learning outcome B: Understand the skills, attributes and values required to give care</p>



UNIT COMPARISON

	Eduqas Level 1/2 Vocational Award in Health and Social Care (Technical Award)	Cambridge National in Health and Social Care	BTEC Tech Award in Health and Social Care
Unit 3	N/A	<p>Topic Area 1: Therapies and their benefits</p> <p>Topic Area 2: Creative activities and their benefits</p> <p>Topic Area 3: Plan a creative activity for individuals or groups in a health or social care setting.</p> <p>Topic Area 4: Deliver a creative activity and evaluate your own performance</p> <p>OR:</p> <p>Topic Area 1: Current public health issues and the impact on society</p> <p>Topic Area 2: Factors influencing health</p> <p>Topic Area 3: Plan and create a health promotion campaign</p> <p>Topic Area 4: Deliver and evaluate a health promotion campaign</p>	<p>A - Factors that affect health and wellbeing</p> <p>B - Interpreting health indicators</p> <p>C - Person-centred approach to improving health and wellbeing</p>

