# FutureSmartCareers

## Prepare for an Apprenticeship in Health and Social Care

If you are interested in working in Health and Social Care via the apprenticeship route you may want to find out more about what you can do to strengthen your application. The following will help with this.

## Where can I look for an Apprenticeship?

One of the first things to do is to register with the Government apprenticeship website. This will alert you to Health and Social care apprenticeships happening near you. Register here.

Other national apprenticeship websites to register with include:
Notgoingtouni
Getmyfirstjob
Ratemyapprenticeship
Career Finder
Indeed

You can also register with local Colleges and Training Providers in Hertfordshire that cover Health and Social Care Apprenticeships.
NHS Hertfordshire Partnership University
Hertfordshire Opportunities Portal (HOP)
West Hertfordshire Teaching Hospital
Hart Learning & Development
Hertfordshire and West Essex Integrated Care System

## What should you check for?

What's the Level of apprenticeship?
Level 2 Intermediate, Level 3 Advanced, Level 4/5 Higher or Level 6 Degree

What are the entry requirements?
Will you need GSCE passes? How many? Or A-Levels or BTECs?  Are there any grades and subjects needed?

Where is the employer's location?
How will you get there - by walking, bus, train? Will you need to move and find accommodation?

What qualifications will you gain with the apprenticeship?
For example, Lead Adult Care Worker Apprenticeship (Level 3)

What training provider or college is linked to the apprenticeship?
Where are they based and how will you get there?

## Who offers Health and Social Care  Apprenticeships?

It is worth approaching any residential or nursing homes or councils that you would like to work for to ask if they are likely to take on apprentices when you are due to leave school.

For more information on what's involved with the different roles see below
Care Worker
Community Development Worker
Family Support Worker
Residential Support Worker
Dental Nurse
Health Care Assistant

## What will they be looking for?

Employers will look for:
- A caring nature
- Good communication skills – written and verbal, for communicating with other staff and clients and record-keeping.
- Willingness to learn and train - nothing stands stills, roles are always developing.
- Enthusiasm.
- Organisational skills and forward-thinking – understanding what needs to be done and planning for it.
- Patience
- Health and safety conscious

## How can I demonstrate I have the skills? How can I stand out from the crowd?

You will need an excellent CV to sell you and your skills and strengths.
For an example of a school leavers' CV see here.

Look at industry websites to find out what they are discussing, for example:
National Association of Care and Support Workers
Society of British Dental Nurses
Think Care Careers

## How can I prepare for interviews?

Employers will expect you to understand the role and what you will be required to do. They will expect you to be organised so turn up for the interview in time, research the company or organisation before the interview and know the names of the people who will be interviewing you.

For general advice on interviews please see
National Careers Service
Apprenticeships.gov
UCAS

Be friendly and polite and remember to smile.

YouTube has lots of clips on the work of apprentices.

## Where can a career in Health and Social Care take you?

With experience, you could move into management or training. You could also apply to train as a nurse, radiographer, dietitian, midwife or social worker.

## Anything else I should know?

Be well prepared, start your search early, and keep a list of where you have applied to. Practice interviews. Be confident in yourself.

Due to the nature of the work a Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check will be carried out on you.

Have a backup plan.