

Allied Health Profession Therapy Support

Senior Healthcare Support Worker Apprenticeship Programme



Level 3



18 months

Occupation profile

Senior Healthcare Support Workers help registered practitioners deliver healthcare services to people. As an experienced support worker, you carry out a range of clinical and non-clinical healthcare tasks, under the direct or indirect supervision of the registered healthcare practitioner. You provide high quality, compassionate healthcare, following standards, policies or protocols and always acting within the limits of your competence. You may work in a range of services e.g. hospital, community, health or birth centre, someone's home, operating theatre, nursing or care home, hospice or GP surgery; working in partnership with families, carers and other service providers.

Allied Health Profession (AHP) - therapy support workers work with individuals in a range of settings, your clinical and therapeutic duties will vary accordingly. There are 12 different AHP professions and you may carry out tasks associated with a single profession or tasks that relate to a range of them. Your supervisor will usually be a registered Allied Health Professional. Illness, disability or a change in life circumstances often means that people have to learn or be supported to do things in new and different ways.

This can change the pattern of a life-course but individuals can often expect to regain and enjoy a quality of life through the therapeutic and clinical support you provide. Some individuals may have short term needs e.g. an injury. Others may have long-term physical and/or mental illness or learning disability that affects their independence, function or way of living. You will be required to work with the individual either on their own or within a group setting. You may also work with others to support the individual e.g. training carers or working with families.

The 12 AHP professions are art therapists, music therapists, drama therapists, paramedics, podiatrists, speech and language therapists, occupational therapists, physiotherapists, dietitians, radiographers, orthoptists and prosthetists/orthotists. Not all of these professions carry out therapeutic interventions, nor do all have support workers within their teams. If you undertake this option in your apprenticeship you are likely to primarily carry out therapeutic tasks related to: dietetics, occupational therapy, physiotherapy, podiatry or speech and language therapy.



Entry requirements

Often when recruiting, employers select apprentices with prior experience as a support worker.

Progression

After a period of working and gaining experience, you may be able to work towards an Assistant Practitioner post or apply to university to become a registered healthcare practitioner.

Programme qualifications & requirements



You will be required:

- To meet the 15 standards as set out in the Care Certificate
- Achieve BTEC Level 3 Diploma in Healthcare Support
- Have or Achieve level 2 English and maths
- Complete a learning journal

Details of the programme

It usually takes 18 months to complete this apprenticeship during which you will participate in training, development and on-going review activities.

These typically include:

- Induction which is specific to your work place and at a minimum meets the 15 standards required by the Care Quality Commission (as set out in the Care Certificate)
- Study days and training courses
- Mentoring/buddy support
- Completion of workbooks or a portfolio through which you gather evidence of your progress
- Structured one to one reviews of your progress with your employer and/or Dynamic Training

Dynamic Training will support you to complete the BTEC Level 3 Diploma in Healthcare Support during the on-programme phase of your apprenticeship.

Your apprenticeship will cover values and behaviours and provide knowledge and core skills for:

- Health and well being
- Duty of care, candour, safeguarding, equality and diversity
- Person centred care, treatment and support
- Communication
- Personal, people and quality improvement
- Health, safety and security
- Assist with delegated therapeutic or clinical tasks and interventions
- Support, educate and enable individuals with their health and wellbeing
- Equipment and resources

Pearson BTEC Level 3 Diploma in Healthcare Support - allied health pathway

Minimum number of credits that must be achieved	65
Minimum number of credits that must be achieved at Level 3 or above	37
Number of mandatory credits that must be achieved	45
Number of optional credits that must be achieved	20

Unit No	Mandatory units	Level	Credit
1	Promote personal development in care settings	3	3
2	Safeguarding and protection in care settings	2	3
3	Promote health, safety and well-being in care settings	3	6
4	Understand mental well-being and mental health promotion	3	3
5	Causes and spread of infection	2	2
6	Promote communication in care settings	3	3
7	Responsibilities of a care worker	2	2
8	Promote effective handling of information in care settings	3	2
9	Understand mental health problems	3	3
10	The principles of infection prevention and control	2	3
11	Cleaning, decontamination and waste management	2	2
12	Duty of care in care settings	3	1
13	Promote equality and inclusion in care settings	3	2
14	Promote person-centred approaches in care settings	3	6
15	Study skills for senior healthcare support workers	3	4

The Level 3 Diploma in healthcare Support is a large qualification with a wide range of optional units. This gives you and your employer maximum freedom to be innovative in which units best fit local needs and workplace contexts.

To assist you, we have indicated how some of the units that are available that may align with the Allied Health pathway.

Please note that these are for illustration only. You and your employer are free to select the optional units that best fit the needs of the service and that of your job role.

Unit No	DIETETICS SUPPORT Optional Units	Level	Credit
39	Provide information and advice to individuals on eating to maintain optimum nutritional status	3	5
67	Monitor and review individuals progress in relation to maintaining optimum nutritional status	3	3
87	Assist the practitioner to carry out health care activities	2	2
124	Contribute to monitoring the health of individuals affected by health conditions	2	2
132	Deliver training through demonstration and instruction	3	3
134	Principles of health promotion	2	2
140	Undertake physiological measurements	3	3
177	Monitor individuals' progress in relation to managing their body weight and nutrition	3	3

Unit No	PHYSIOTHERAPY Optional Units	Level	Credit
40	Assist in the implementation of programmes to increase mobility, movement and functional independence	3	4
56	Implement hydrotherapy programmes for individuals and groups	3	5
57	Deliver exercise sessions to improve individuals' health and well-being	3	5
87	Assist the practitioner to carry out health care activities	2	2
113	Assist in testing individuals' abilities prior to planning physical activities	3	5
178	Assist in implementing treatment programmes for individuals with severely reduced movement/mobility	3	5

Unit No	OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY Optional Units	Level	Credit
32	Collaborate in the assessment of environmental and social support in the community	3	4
37	Implement therapeutic group activities	3	4
85	Assist in planning and evaluating learning activities	2	3
104	Provide support to maintain and develop skills for everyday life	3	4
112	Support individuals with cognition or learning difficulties	3	5
156	Support independence in the tasks of daily living	2	5
170	Support individuals to live at home	3	4

Unit No	SPEECH AND LANGUAGE Optional Units	Level	Credit
27	Support individuals with speech and language disorders to develop their communication skills	3	4
55	Assist professionals to support individuals from diverse linguistic and cultural backgrounds to access speech and language therapy services	3	5
87	Assist the practitioner to carry out health care activities	2	2
94	Develop and prepare speech and language therapy resources for alternative and augmentative communication (AAC) use	3	4
128	Assist and support individuals to use alternative and augmentative communication systems (AAC)	3	5
161	Develop activities and materials to enable individuals to reach specific communication goals	3	5
176	Provide support for individuals with communication and interaction difficulties	3	5

Unit No	PODIATY Optional Units	Level	Credit
64	Provide support for mobility	2	2
86	Adapt and fit health care equipment, medical devices, assistive technology or products to meet individuals' needs	3	6
87	Assist the practitioner to carry out health care activities	2	2
107	Support individuals undergoing health care activities	2	3
138	Provide agreed support for foot care	2	3
117	Provide advice on foot care for individuals with diabetes	4	4
178	Assist in implementing treatment programmes for individuals with severely reduced movement/mobility	3	5
182	Examine the feet of individuals with diabetes	3	3

Unit No	PROSTHETIC/ORTHOTIC Optional Units	Level	Credit
22	Provide support to individuals to continue recommended therapies	3	3
25	Coordinate the progress of individuals through care pathways	3	4
86	Adapt and fit health care equipment, medical devices, assistive technology or products to meet individuals needs	3	6
87	Assist the practitioner to carry out health care activities	2	2
117	Provide advice on foot care for individuals with diabetes	4	4
147	Advise and inform individuals on managing their condition	3	5
182	Examine the feet of individuals with diabetes	3	3

Assessment Gateway

Your employer will make the decision as to when you are ready to undertake the end point assessment.

Before going forward for end point assessment you must have:

- Met the 15 standards required by the Care Quality Commission (as set out in the Care Certificate)
- Have or achieved Level 2 maths and English
- Achieved the BTEC Level 3 Diploma in Healthcare Support
- Completed a learning journal during the 3 months leading up to the planned date of the end point assessment

End point assessment

Following successful completion of the Gateway, you will proceed to end point assessment (EPA). The EPA is provided by an independent assessment organisation, chosen by your employer.

The assessment takes the following format, although the sequencing of the end point assessment components is determined by your employer and assessor to ensure best fit with local needs:

A successful apprentice receives an overall grade of Pass, Merit or Distinction.

Assessment Method	Area Assessed	Grading
Multiple choice & short answer test	30 multiple choice and 4 short answer questions (60 minutes)	Pass Merit Distinction
Observation of practice	(minimum of 90 minutes)	Ungraded above Pass
Learning journal and Interview	The learning journal is assessed. The interview takes place (min of 30 minutes, max of 60 minutes)	Pass Merit Distinction