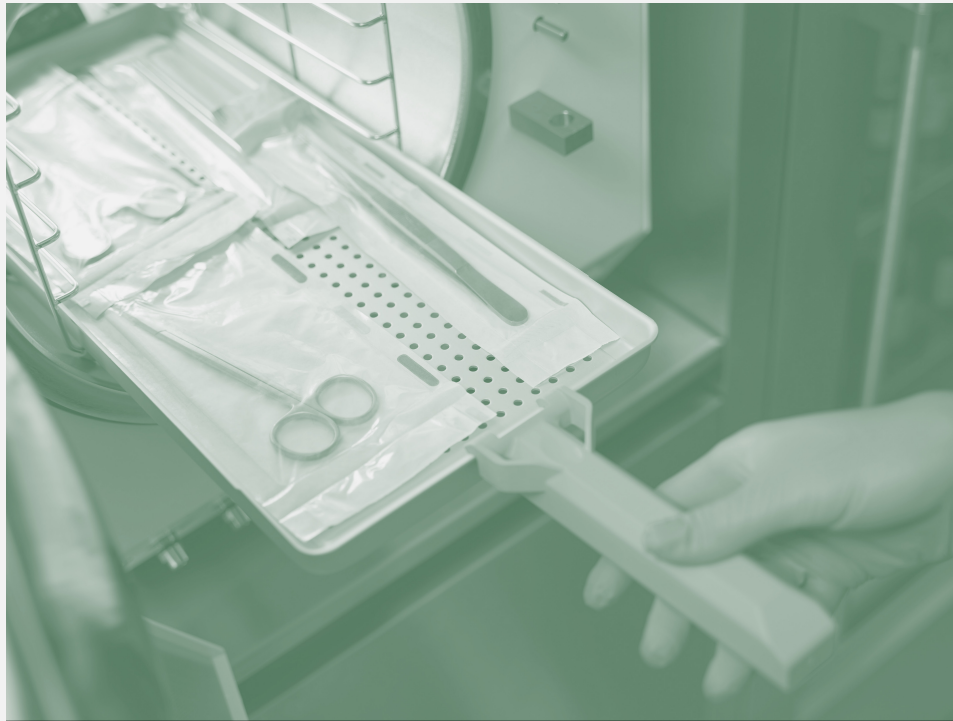


Healthcare Science Assistant Level 2 Programme Plan – Decontamination and/or Endoscopy Pathway

Duration: 8-14 months + End-Point Assessment (EPA)



CORE PROGRAMME DELIVERY

All learners complete a core Healthcare Science programme covering:

- Being a Successful Student & Scientist
- Health, Safety and Security
- The Role of the Healthcare Scientist
- Quality, Research and Innovation
- Principles and practice of Patient Care
- Health and Disease (dependant on pathway)

These sessions provide the foundations required to work safely and effectively within Healthcare Science services.

PROGRAMME STRUCTURE

The Healthcare Science Assistant Level 2 apprenticeship develops the knowledge, skills and behaviours required to work safely and effectively within Healthcare Science services.

The Decontamination and Endoscopy pathway is designed for learners working within sterile services, decontamination departments and endoscopy decontamination environments. Apprentices develop the knowledge and practical skills required to safely clean, inspect, disinfect, assemble, package and sterilise reusable medical devices whilst supporting infection prevention and patient safety.

The apprenticeship is delivered through:

- Remote interactive workshops
- Specialist decontamination and endoscopy pathway sessions
- Workplace competency development
- Portfolio-based assessment through OneFile
- Regular coaching and progress reviews
- Gateway and End-Point Assessment preparation

Specialist technical delivery is supported by subject matter experts from Eastwood Park.

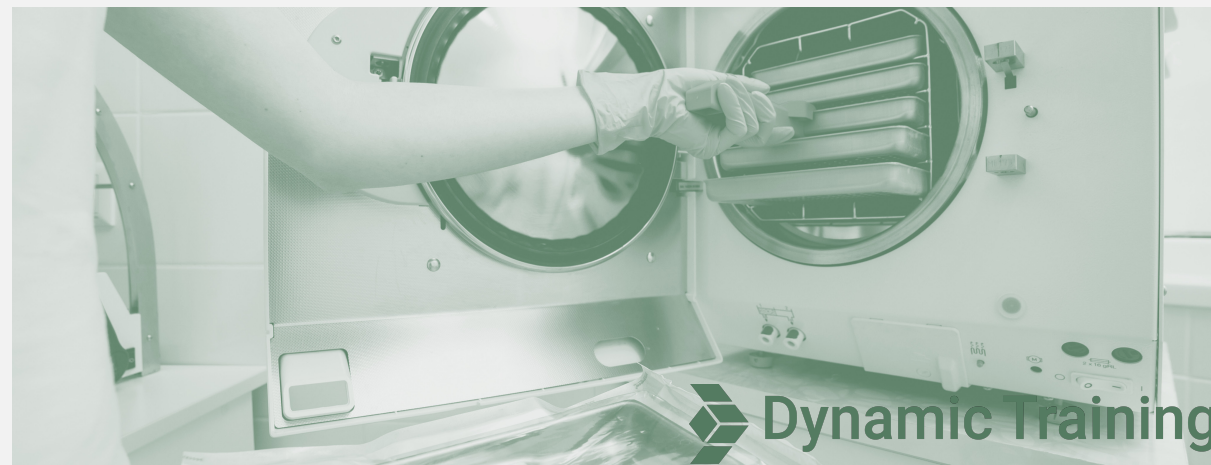
ASSESSMENT METHODS

Assessment is portfolio-based and demonstrates competence in both knowledge and workplace practice.

Examples include:

- Knowledge workbooks
- Professional discussions
- Reflective accounts
- Workplace observations
- Witness testimonies
- Photo diaries
- Work logs
- Competency records
- Product evidence

All evidence is uploaded and reviewed through the OneFile e-portfolio system.



Healthcare Science Assistant Level 2 Programme Plan – Decontamination and/or Endoscopy Pathway

Total off the Job Hours: 326

OFF-THE-JOB LEARNING ACTIVITIES

Learners complete approximately 326 hours of Off-the-Job Learning throughout the apprenticeship. This learning takes place during paid working hours and supports the development of apprenticeship knowledge, skills and behaviours.

Activities include:

Core Learning

- Workshops and tutorials
- Independent research and study
- Reflective practice
- Portfolio development

Workplace Learning

- Shadowing decontamination and sterile services teams
- Observation of decontamination processes
- MDT activities
- Competency development
- Service improvement activities

Specialist Learning

- Cleaning and disinfection activities
- Medical device inspection and testing
- Sterilisation processes
- Endoscope reprocessing
- Endoscopy department visits
- Quality assurance activities
- Infection prevention meetings
- Audit and governance activities
- Equipment traceability processes

Learners working in departments without endoscope processing can complete the core decontamination pathway, while those working within endoscopy services can additionally develop specialist endoscope decontamination competencies.

SPECIALIST PATHWAY DELIVERY – DECONTAMINATION AND ENDOSCOPY

Specialist learning focuses on the knowledge and skills required to support sterile services, decontamination units and endoscopy services.

Topics include:

- Causes of disease and maintaining health
- Infection prevention and control
- Reusable medical device decontamination
- Cleaning and disinfection processes
- Inspection and functional testing of medical devices
- Assembly and packaging in controlled environments
- Sterilisation procedures
- Quality assurance and traceability
- Flexible endoscope decontamination
- Endoscope product release processes
- Clinical governance and patient safety

Learners develop practical workplace skills whilst supporting the safe processing and management of reusable medical devices and endoscopic equipment.

END-POINT ASSESSMENT (EPA)

The apprenticeship concludes with an independent End-Point Assessment delivered by the National School for Healthcare Science (NSHCS).

Assessment includes:

- Observation of Practice with Questions
- Professional Discussion
- Portfolio Review

Successful apprentices achieve the nationally recognised:

- Healthcare Science Assistant Level 2 Apprenticeship Standard.

PROGRESSION OPPORTUNITIES

Following successful completion, learners may progress to:

- Senior Decontamination Technician roles
- Endoscopy Decontamination Technician roles
- Sterile Services Department positions
- Level 4 Healthcare Science Associate Apprenticeships
- Decontamination leadership and supervisory pathways
- Other Healthcare Science specialisms

PROGRAMME OUTCOME

Apprentices will be able to:

- Support safe decontamination and sterilisation services
- Apply infection prevention and control principles
- Process reusable medical devices safely and effectively
- Support endoscope decontamination and release procedures
- Apply quality assurance and traceability requirements
- Work effectively within multidisciplinary teams
- Maintain patient safety and regulatory compliance
- Contribute to positive patient outcomes through effective decontamination practice

