



Careers in Health & Social Care

Your guide to training, jobs and opportunities

Liverpool & Merseyside | Entry Level to Level 3 | SEND-friendly options available

Why Choose a Career in Health & Social Care?

- Make a real difference to people's lives every day
- One of the largest and fastest-growing employment sectors in the UK
- Huge variety of roles — hospitals, care homes, schools, community and charity settings
- Strong job security and consistent demand across Liverpool and Merseyside
- Clear progression pathways from entry level right through to management and specialist roles
- Flexible working patterns including part-time, bank and shift work

Skills and Personal Qualities

- Empathy and a genuine desire to support and care for others
- Good communication — listening, speaking clearly and writing records
- Patience, resilience and the ability to stay calm under pressure
- Reliability, punctuality and a professional attitude
- Teamwork and the ability to follow instructions and procedures
- Sensitivity to privacy, dignity and individual needs

Useful School Subjects

- Health & Social Care — direct introduction to the sector
- Science / Biology — understanding the body, medication and conditions
- English — communication, report writing and reading care plans
- Maths — recording measurements, medication doses and data
- PSHE / Citizenship — equality, diversity, safeguarding and wellbeing

Local Courses (Entry Level to Level 3)

Courses are available across Merseyside from Entry Level upwards. Many courses accept students without GCSEs.

Health & Social Care

- City of Liverpool College — Health & Social Care L1, L2, L3
- Hugh Baird College — Health & Social Care L1-L3
- Knowsley Community College — Health & Social Care L1-L2
- St Helens College — Health & Social Care L2-L3
- Riverside College, Widnes — Health & Social Care L1-L2
- Greenbank College — Health & Social Care Entry Level to L3 (SEND-friendly, supported learning available)

Childcare & Early Years

- City of Liverpool College — Early Years / Childcare L2-L3
- Hugh Baird College — Childcare & Education L2-L3
- Knowsley Community College — Children & Young People's Workforce L2-L3

- St Helens College — Early Years Education & Childcare L2-L3
- Greenbank College — Early Years and related vocational pathways (Entry Level to L3)

SEND-Friendly Provision

- All colleges above offer SEND-friendly provision — speak to the college's inclusion or learning support team
- Greenbank College specialises in supporting students with SEND across all levels
- Your school's SENCO or transition adviser can help identify the right college and course for you

Apprenticeships and Training

- Adult Care Worker Apprenticeship — Level 2 (12–18 months)
- Lead Adult Care Worker Apprenticeship — Level 3
- Children, Young People & Families Practitioner — Level 4
- Healthcare Support Worker Apprenticeship — Level 2 (NHS and private providers)
- Early Years Practitioner Apprenticeship — Level 2 / Early Years Educator — Level 3
- Search live vacancies: www.findapprenticeship.service.gov.uk

Jobs, Volunteering and Work Experience

There are many different roles in health and social care — from hospitals to community settings.

Role	Where You Work	Starting Qualification
Care Assistant / Support Worker	Residential care, domiciliary, supported living	Level 2 Health & Social Care
Healthcare Support Worker	NHS hospitals, GP surgeries, clinics	Level 2 / NHS induction
Early Years Practitioner	Nurseries, schools, children's centres	Level 2 Childcare
Teaching Assistant / SEND Support	Schools, specialist provision	Level 2 / 3 Education & Childcare
Mental Health Support Worker	Community teams, charities, hospitals	Level 2/3 Health & Social Care
Counsellor / Wellbeing Worker	Schools, GP practices, charities	Level 3 + counselling training
Nurse (Registered)	NHS, private, community	Degree in Nursing (NMC registered)
Social Worker	Local authority, charities, NHS	Degree in Social Work

- Volunteer with local charities such as Age UK Merseyside, Mencap or St Joseph's Hospice
- Ask your school or adviser to arrange work experience in a care home, school or NHS setting

Typical starting salary: £21,000–£25,000. Senior and specialist roles can earn £30,000–£45,000+.

Next Steps and Contact Information

- Speak to your school or college careers adviser
- Visit open days at local colleges to find out more about courses and support available
- Search for local jobs: www.indeed.co.uk | www.notjustjobs.com
- Find apprenticeships: www.findapprenticeship.service.gov.uk
- Explore NHS careers: www.healthcareers.nhs.uk



TAGS Careers	www.tags.careers — local careers information and resources
Adviser	Neil Alecock — Careers & Transition Adviser, Liverpool & Merseyside