Faculty of Health,
Education and Life Sciences

BIRMINGHAM CITY University

Cert HE Health and Social Care FdSc (Foundation degree)

Maternity

INFORMATION BOOKLET

FdSc Health and Social Care

Welcome to Birmingham City University's Faculty of Health, Education and Life Sciences and thank you for your enquiry regarding studying on the FdSc Health and Social Care programme. This full-time work-based learning programme is aimed at people who are currently working in a health or social care setting.

The FdSc Health and Social Care programme has pathways in:

- Adult Care
- Children
- Diagnostic Radiography
- Mental Health
- Management in Health and Social Care
- Mammography
- Radiotherapy
- Maternity

Entry Requirements

All applicants must have the following:

GCSE at grade C or above in English Language and Mathematics. Equivalent qualifications such as Key Skills Level 2, Adult Numeracy Level 2, Adult Literacy Level 2, CSE grade 1 and functional skills level 2 in Maths and English will be accepted. Irish leaving certificate – Maths and English Ordinary Level passes at grade B or above. Scottish qualifications – Maths and English passes at Intermediate Standard 2 or above.

In addition to the above you will be required to have:

GCE A Level

Minimum of one A2 Level pass at grade D or above. General Studies and Critical Thinking excluded.

OR

GCE AS Level

Minimum of two AS level passes at grade D or above. General Studies and Critical Thinking excluded.

OR

HCE double award

AVCE double award minimum pass at grade DD. General Studies and Critical Thinking excluded.

OR

BTEC National Award

Minimum pass grade M required.

OR

BTEC National Certificate

Minimum pass grade PP required.

OR

BTEC National Diploma

Minimum pass grade PPP required.

International Baccalaureate Diploma

Minimum pass grade 24 required.

OR

Access to HE Diploma in Health and Social Care

Full award (60 credits) must include 12 Level 2 maths credits and 12 Level 2 English credits if not already achieved at GCSE or equivalent.

OR

NVQ Level 3

Full award, plus GCSE Maths at grade C or above or equivalent.

OR

NVQ Level 2

Full award plus a written paper – details of the content will be provided by the admissions tutor post application.

OR

14-19 Progression Diploma in Society, Health and Development

Full award.

OR

Cache Award, Certificate or Diploma

Full award.

Portfolio route

A portfolio route has been devised for those applicants who are already working in a health or social care setting and who do not meet the formal entry requirements. To follow this route you are still expected to possess GCSE Maths or equivalent and GCSE English or equivalent.

The portfolio should include:

- Two written testimonies (one of which must be from your employer) supporting your application
- One reflective piece that draws on your current practice (1,500 words)
- All pieces of work should be endorsed by your line manager.

The portfolio should be submitted within 2 weeks post application, following discussion with the Admissions Tutor.

In addition:

All applicants will be invited to attend an interview that includes numeracy and literacy assessments, to be held at the University. Applicants seconded from local Trusts may also be required to attend an interview as part of their Trust's selection process.

Applicants must be employed in a health or social care support worker role (or equivalent) and have support from their line manager in order to apply to the programme.

Places are subject to the confirmation from the Disclosure and Barring Service. Applicants should be aware that qualifications, personal statement, interview, references, written exercise and where appropriate portfolio all form part of the selection criteria for this programme.

Hours of attendance in University

Each student will require one day protected learning time per week, which will include University attendance, group tutorials or self-directed study time.

Programme structure

Students studying the Foundation degree will study the equivalent of 11 modules throughout the programme. The full-time programme is offered over two years and will be delivered via work-based learning.

Students will be required to study towards the completion of module workbooks or online learning through Moodle activities, forums and postings while building an e-portfolio and completing relevant assessments.

Self-directed study

Students will be introduced to each module (or topic of study) by the module coordinator. Each module has a series of classroom sessions and other activities designed to help students gain all the information and skills needed to successfully complete their studies. Students are expected to

undertake some of these activities in their own time or in their own organisation. Students are given advice on managing their study time and will be directed by module coordinators to complete learning activities on time. Prospective students must be aware of the commitment required to complete the Foundation degree programme.

Student support

Students will have support from a personal tutor, mentor and assessor or clinical learning facilitator whilst undertaking the programme. Students may also access additional support services to meet their learning needs during their time in university.

Personal tutor

A member of the University staff will act as a personal tutor and advise students regarding their individual learning needs, providing or referring them to the support mechanisms as required. Personal tutors may also provide support and

advice where appropriate, helping students adjust to University life. Personal tutors will provide a link between the University and the workplace, making regular contact with students and their work-based mentors. Personal tutors, where feasible, will make regular visits to the workplace. Where this is not feasible, specific arrangements will be made in consultation with the student, their work-based mentor and organisation in order to provide the individual support required.

Mentor/Assessor or Clinical Learning Facilitator

An appropriate member of staff from the student's organisation will be identified and be responsible for organising and assessing learning in the workplace. They will provide and arranged clinical learning and assessment opportunities, monitor student's progress through module workbooks and liaise closely with the personal tutor and/or programme director.

Titles and awards

Successful completion of the full learning programme will lead to the award Foundation degree Science (FdSc) Health and Social Care (pathway specific).

Course philosophy

The Foundation degree Health and Social Care is designed to provide students with the knowledge and skills required to support their individual work roles and thus benefit their service users. Work-based learning is a key feature of the programme, enabling students to apply newly acquired knowledge to their practice effectively and in a timely manner. Many students will have no experience of higher education and one of the key philosophies of the programme is to support the academic and personal development of the student, enabling them to achieve their individual potential.

In turn, this will facilitate the delivery of a responsive, informed and quality service within organisations. Collaboration between the University and work-based partners will aim to ensure students receive the support they need to engage with the unfamiliar, and the programme team are committed to providing the support and encouragement required to achieve their individual goals. The programme is committed to developing workers who will be productive members of interprofessional teams, whilst responding to the changing needs and priorities of the services they support.

Content

Programme content is informed by the various professional groups supported by the programme. National Occupational Standards have been used as reference points where appropriate as well as detailed consultation with employers.

Maternity pathway

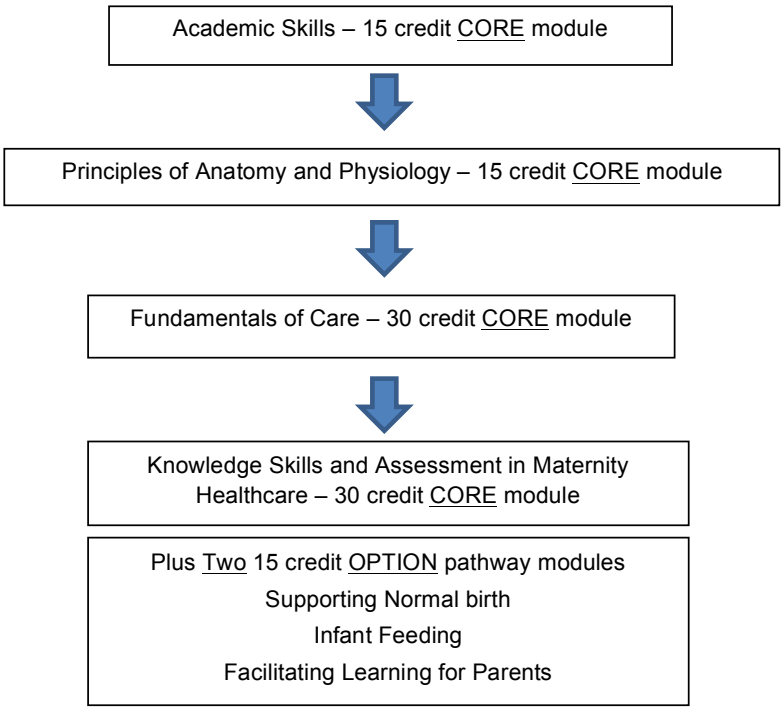
This pathway is aimed at support workers working within a maternity setting. The pathway is of particular interest to those wishing to develop their role and gain competence in the principles that surround caring for pregnant women.

FdSc Health and Social Care (Maternity)

Modules of study

The following flowcharts identify the modules you will be undertaking:

Year 1, Level 4 (120 credits)



FdSc Health and Social Care (Maternity)

Year 2, Level 5 (120 credits)

Introduction to Evidence Based Health Care and Research Methods – 30 credit CORE module



Advanced Knowledge Skills and Assessment in Maternity Healthcare – 30 credit CORE module



Becoming a Paraprofessional – 30 credit CORE module



Plus Two 15 credit modules

Health Promotion and Maternity Care

Supporting the Transition to Parenting

Progression

Students who successfully complete the FdSc Health and Social Care programme can top-up to a BSc or BSc (Hons) programme. Each applicant is considered on an individual basis.

We hope you have found this booklet useful and if you require any further information please contact the Admissions Tutor – Amanda Browne.

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