

HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE

What is the Health & Social Care sector?



Health and Social Care is the treatment of ill health and medical conditions in hospitals, health centres and in the community. Social care is the care and support of vulnerable people, usually in the community.

The NHS in the Tees Valley is comprised of three Foundation Hospital Trusts (North Tees, South Tees and County Durham and Darlington), Tees Valley Clinical Commissioning Group (responsible for the planning and purchasing of healthcare services), and Tees, Esk and Wear Valley Foundation NHS Trust which provides mental health services. They all have excellent reputations and the Tees Valley is also the headquarters of a number of social care homes, including the UK's largest.

Key Information

The Tees Valley has a large health and social care sector, with the number of health and social care jobs 39% above the national average.

Over 48,650 people work in health and social care in the Tees Valley.

There were over 5,740 health and social care job vacancies advertised online in the Tees Valley in 2020.

Only 21% of the health and social care workforce is male – there is a need to recruit more men to the sector.

There are over 20,000 jobs predicted in the Tees Valley in the health and social care sector between now and 2027, with the majority of these being replacement demand from those who will leave and retire.

Useful Subjects

- Mathematics
- English
- Sciences
- Health and Social Care

Skills and Qualities

- Communication
- Problem Solving
- Teamwork
- Genuine interest in caring for people

Top 5 skills most requested in Health & Social job adverts

1. Mental Health
2. Patient Care
3. Care Planning
4. Teamwork/Collaboration
5. Nursing Home

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Average annual salaries in the Tees Valley

Doctor	£57,600	Radiographer	£37,800
Psychologist	£52,600	Social Worker	£36,200
Midwife	£43,100	Nurse	£35,600
Paramedic	£40,500	Physiotherapist	£35,600
Pharmacist	£39,200	Occupational Therapist	£34,400
Dentist	£37,800	Care Worker and Home Carers	£18,500

Routes into Health and Social Care

Many jobs in the health sector are graduate level only and require specific qualifications at degree level, e.g. Nurse, Pharmacist and Physiotherapist.

Some careers in social care can be started without qualifications but usually require some, for example, a NVQ Level 2 or Level 3 in Care. Your attitude and life experiences are just as important for employers to work out if you are suitable for the role. Some apprenticeships are available, e.g. Health Care Assistant, Therapy Assistant. Go to www.apprenticeships.gov.uk.

There are a range of qualifications, e.g. A- Levels and BTECs that can be achieved at college, see www.ucas.com/further-education; or whilst working or in an apprenticeship go to www.skillsforcare.org.uk/Careers-in-care/Starting-your-career/Apprenticeships/Thinking-of-doing-an-apprenticeship.aspx.

Carers can develop specialist knowledge in dementia care, learning disabilities and mental health care, etc. For more information go to www.skillsforcareanddevelopment.org.uk.

It can be difficult to get work experience in health and social care when you are under 18 years old. As an alternative, try to get some experience in other customer care roles first, e.g. retail sales or do some voluntary work.

Working in a care home is usually a good way of getting work experience and you can go in as a placement whilst at school and then get a part time job alongside studying.

More Information:

NHS Health Careers

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Step into the NHS

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TEES VALLEY MAYOR

TEES VALLEY
CAREERS