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), a Mental Health Trust and two Primary Care Trusts (PCTs). 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.

**What is the Health and Social Care sector?**

Over 54,100 people work in health and social care in the Tees Valley.

**Key Information...**

The Tees Valley has a large health and social care sector, with the number of health and social care jobs 50% above the national average.

Due to an ageing population in the UK the health and social care sector is one of the fastest growing sectors. 23% of new jobs created in the UK by 2022 will be in health and social care.

More men are needed to work in health and social care – only 21% employed are men.

There were over 5,600 health and social care job vacancies advertised online in the Tees Valley in 2015.

There are over 26,000 extra jobs predicted in the Tees Valley in the health and social care sector between now and 2024, with 22,000 of these being replacement demand from those who will leave and retire.

**Useful Subjects**

- Maths
- English
- Sciences
- Health and Social Care

**Skills and Qualities**

- Communication
- Problem Solving
- Team Work
- Genuine interest in caring for people

Due to an ageing population in the UK the health and social care sector is one of the fastest growing sectors. 23% of new jobs created in the UK by 2022 will be in health and social care.
Top 5 skills most requested in Health and Social job adverts

- Rehabilitation knowledge
- Mental Health
- Screening
- Care Giving
- Learning Disabilities knowledge

Average annual salaries in the Tees Valley

- Nurse - £21,692 - £28,180
- Pharmacist - £41,288
- Physiotherapist - £35,526
- Doctor - £69,555
- Radiographer - £32,448
- Midwife - £36,628.80
- Medical Engineers £21,692 - £28,180
- Clinical Psychologist £31,072 - £40,964

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.getingofar.gov.uk

There are a range of qualifications, e.g. A- Levels and BTECs that can be achieved at college, see www.ucasprogress.com; or whilst working or in an apprenticeship. Go to www.skillsforcare.org.uk/apprenticeships/.

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

More Information:

https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/
http://www.stepintothenhs.nhs.uk

Watch a video about young people working in Health and Social care at:

https://teesvalley-ca.gov.uk/teesvalleyskills/2098-2/careers-videos/