A screenshot of a video game

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Welcome to Health and Social Care at Richard Huish CollegeA picture containing graphical user interface

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Task One: All about me

In Health and Social Care, you need to have an awareness of your own skills and qualities so that you can identify areas of development to work effectively with all types of service users. This is called *Reflective Practice,* and it is a skill you will be developing throughout your study programme as you think objectively about your developing skills, knowledge and understanding of Health and Social Care. You will make a start on reflecting on your skills and abilities now by applying for the job advertised below.

**Create a formal letter of application which includes full details of your current knowledge, skills, experience, values and beliefs.**

**HEALTHCARE ASSISTANT REQUIRED**

Warders Medical Centre is looking for a new healthcare assistant to work at least 16 hours per week. The role will include administrative work, alongside care and support for service users when they visit the centre. You will also be expected to carry out domiciliary visits to service users living independently. General practice experience would be an advantage, but full training will be given.

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| **Things to include in your letter of application**: |
| **Knowledge:**  Relevant formal learning: this should include your GCSEs, any training courses you have attended, skills you have learnt from a part time job  Relevant informal learning: this should include anything you have learnt in addition to school – hobbies, home life etc. |
| **Skills:**  Communication: are you a good communicator? What language skills do you have - perhaps you speak more than 1 language? How about your non-verbal skills? Think about body language, eye contact, gestures. Do you know any sign language? How do you use your communication skills? Perhaps you know someone with a hearing loss or a learning disability – how do you communicate effectively with them?  Work experience: do you have a part time job? Have you done any work experience? Detail here the skills these experiences have given you  Practical skills: Do you play an instrument or bake a mean lemon drizzle cake? Do you participate in any sports? Tell us about it here  Working with others: Do you work well as part of a team? Please give some examples of when you have worked cohesively with others – this could be your peers or service users  Technical skills: eg use of IT – what are your skills in this area?  Personal skills: detail here your organisational and time management skills. You could include how you prepared for your exams or how you managed your coursework to make sure it was handed in on time. |
| **Values and beliefs:**  What is important to you? This may include relationships, religion, dietary preferences. Use this information to tell us the sort of person you are. Try to describe yourself as others see you and use a wide vocabulary to outline your personality |

This task should take no more than 45 minutes

Task Two: Health and Social Care careers

There are many job roles and careers in the Health and Social Care sector; over 350 roles in the NHS alone. All roles demand different skills and knowledge and the route into them can vary greatly. The range of service users across health and care is diverse, all with unique support needs.

*Research* a health and social care job, finding out as much as you can about the day to day responsibilities of the practitioner. You may like to choose a job role which you are interested in pursuing as a career when you leave Richard Huish College.

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| **Things to include in your job description** |
| **Job role:**  Title of role  Basic description of the job including the type of service user the practitioner works with and the type of setting they may work in  Skills and qualities needed to do the job |
| **Responsibilities**  Are they in charge of other members of staff? Maybe they train junior staff?  What are their daily responsibilities in terms of meeting service users’ needs and service delivery? Think about:   * Health and Safety * Safeguarding (promoting welfare and protection from harm) * Meeting the physical, intellectual, emotional and social needs of service users |
| **Training:**  What training have they undertaken to get their job?  What are their qualifications?  Are they any other routes into this job role? |
| **Professionalism**:  Which other practitioners do they work alongside?  Do they have to be part of a professional register and pay an annual fee to practice their profession? |
| **General:**  What is the salary for this role? |

You may find the following websites useful:

<https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/>

[Careerpilot : Job sectors : Social care : What's this about?](https://www.careerpilot.org.uk/job-sectors/social-care)

<https://www.allaboutcareers.com/careers/industry/health-social-care>

<http://www.hcpc-uk.co.uk/>

<https://www.nmc.org.uk/>

This task should take no more than 45 minutes

Task Three (a): Risk assessment

Please take a trip to somewhere near your home. For example, you could visit the local park, shopping centre, swimming pool, cinema or café. While you are there, imagine that you are arranging a visit for a group of people who use a health or social care service. Maybe a group of older people? Or a trip for adults with additional needs? How about a class from a primary school?

During your visit, try to identify anything in the environment which could be a hazard for your service user group. Are there lots of steps? Is there a busy road nearby? See if you can identify at least 5 hazards.

Once you have identified your hazards, can you think of what you could do to reduce the risk of any members of your group being harmed? Complete the table below

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Location of visit: | |
| Hazard | How to reduce risk of harm |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |

Task Three (b): Overcoming barriers

In addition to the hazards you have written about, see if you can identify anything in the environment which makes it easier for everyone to access it. For example – is there a lift? Are there ramps? Is there a hearing aid loop? Can people access menus in large print or braille? Are there accessible toilets and parking spaces?

To do this, it might be easier if you imagine that you use a wheelchair or have a visual or hearing impairment and think about the difficulties you would face in the environment and what has been done to make it easier for you.

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| Write a review of your visit  Detail what barriers you might face if you have a disability or an impairment  Detail what has been done to reduce those barriers |

This task (including your visit) should take around 3 hours

See below for recommendations of Health and Social Care related films, documentaries, programmes and books to keep you going until September

A person wearing glasses

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