

Dear student

Doing the health and social care course at West Notts not only gives you a qualification, but also gives you experience in the work place.

You will do 80 hours of work placement in your first year, and 100 hours in your final year. But I know what you're thinking... What even is 'work placement?'

Work placement is where you volunteer to be in a health and social care related environment such as King's Mill Hospital, primary schools, CAMHS, charity shops and many more to gain the much needed EXPERIENCE.

You may be thinking 'I don't know how to apply for work placement', 'how do I do it?', this is where your tutors at college help you. Not only are they most likely very experienced within healthcare work places, they are also there to help you understand what you have to do. A special tutor called a 'work placement co-ordinator' will ring up your desired work placement and ask very nicely if you can attend, it's that simple!

Just as much as work placement is part of your course, there is another thing very important you must do in order to gain your qualification...course work. I don't know about you but, I HATE exams, like my brain just gives up. But with course work, you have a while to do it, and then you can even redo it if it's wrong!

In health and social care year one you'll cover subjects such as infection, prevention and control, psychology, sociology, equality and diversity, human growth and development and many more. In your second year you'll do subjects such as microbiology, empowerment, nutrition, health psychology and many more. The grades you can achieve in course work are grades D-A\*.

I know that sounds like A LOT of work, but if you are really struggling with a subject you can choose which grade you want to do in it, however all tutors recommended to go to the highest of your ability.

Good luck!

**Beth Williams**