



## WJEC Level 3 Extended Diploma in Health and Social Care: Principles and Contexts: Supporting learners starting their course in September 2022

The new Extended Diploma in Health and Social Care: Principles and Contexts will be awarded for the first time in Summer 2024. The qualification will be made up of the content specified in the published Diploma in Health and Social Care: Principles and Contexts [specification](#) (with some streamlining to unit 2 – see WJEC Circular 114 for further information), as well as new content areas such as physiology and anatomy. The new content will be available for delivery from September 2023.

There is no requirement for centres to offer the new qualification. Centres currently offering the Diploma qualification alongside other qualifications, for example the GCE A Level in Health and Social Care, and Childcare, may choose to continue to do so.

For those centres wanting to offer the Extended Diploma qualification to learners starting their course in September 2022, one or more of the following options may be suitable to deliver 540 guided learning hours in year 1 (2022/23):

### **Option A: Delivery of the units 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6**

Units 4 and 6 combined total 180 guided learning hours and, when delivered alongside units 1 - 3, would total 540 guided learning hours.

During our scoping meetings for the Extended Diploma, many centres indicated that they would like to begin delivering unit 6 in year 1 to allow learners an opportunity to experience work placement in their first year.

Some centres indicated that they would want to offer unit 6 over two years with assessment taking place in year 2. This is possible within the structure of the qualification as there is no set order or time at which learners must be entered for assessment.

### **Option B: Delivery of Units 1, 2, 3 and 5**

Unit 5 is allocated 180 guided learning hours; centres could choose to deliver this unit alongside units 1-3. Offering this unit in year 1 offers the opportunity for learners to be entered for the unit 5 external examination in the Summer of year 1 (where appropriate) and have two resit opportunities in year 2 if required.

### **Option C: Delivery of Units 1, 2 and 3 alongside the Health and Social Care Core qualification**

Some centres offer the Diploma qualification and the Health and Social Care: Core qualification over two years. An alternative model could be to deliver the Health and Social Care: Core qualification in year 1 alongside units 1, 2 and 3. The remainder of the units making up the Extended Diploma could then be delivered in year 2.

As part of the development of the Extended Diploma we will also be developing a new 540glh to provide a one-year exit route. Currently, learners completing their studies at the end of year 1 and choosing not to continue to year 2 can be awarded the Certificate in Health and Social Care: Principles and Contexts based on their outcomes in units 1-3.