



# Level 1 Award in Preparing to Work in Adult Social Care

## What is the Level 1 Award in Preparing to Work in Adult Social Care?

This award is achieved by all those who successfully complete the pre-employment training course contained within the care sector route-way.

The course is designed to give unemployed learners a quick but comprehensive introduction to working in adult social care so that they can decide if a social care career is right for them.

It is delivered as part of the care sector route-way which was designed by Skills for Care in consultation with care sector employers, training providers and Jobcentre Plus.

## What are the benefits for employers?

Employers can expect anyone who has achieved this award to have a realistic understanding of what it would be like for them to work in the care sector.

In turn, recruits with these realistic expectations are far less likely to leave within their first few months in post, saving employers significant sums in repeat recruitment costs.

(It is estimated that the full costs of recruiting and inducting a new social care employee is around £3,500.)

As the course is designed to act as a stepping stone towards the Common Induction Standards, employers will find that recruits who have achieved the level 1 award are better-prepared at the start of their induction and so able to complete their induction faster, and with less resource-intensive support.



## What does the course cover?

The course involves around 60 hours of 'classroom' learning as well as work-place visits or a work experience placement lasting up to two weeks. It can be delivered flexibly over a number of weeks to meet the needs of learners and employers.

It is made up of five level 1 units:

### **Introduction to the adult social care sector**

- Know about types of social care support available to adults
- Know the range of jobs available in adult social care

### **Introduction to the values and principles of adult social care**

- Know the values and principles of adult social care
- Know the importance of diversity within adult social care

### **Awareness of the skills and attitudes needed to work in adult social care**

- Know the range of skills and attitudes essential to work in adult social care

### **Awareness of communication in adult social care**

- Know the communication skills needed in adult social care
- Know how adult social care workers can meet the communication and language needs of individuals
- Know the importance of record-keeping in adult social care settings

### **Awareness of the role and responsibilities of the adult social care worker**

- Know about the responsibilities of the adult social care worker
- Know about the role of the adult social care worker

## Who delivers and funds the course?

The course is funded by the Skills Funding Agency and delivered by colleges or large training providers and their sub-contractors. It could also be funded or part-funded by Work Programme providers and/or social care employers.

Unemployed people are referred to the course by Jobcentre Plus (via the sector-based work academies) and by Work Programme providers.

People who are not registered as unemployed, for example those facing redundancy, looking for a career change or in education, could also access the course via their local college or training provider.

### **For further information:**

Visit [www.skillsforcare.org.uk/caresectorrouteway](http://www.skillsforcare.org.uk/caresectorrouteway) or contact [info@skillsforcare.org.uk](mailto:info@skillsforcare.org.uk).