

Level 4 Diploma in Adult Care



This knowledge & skills-based qualification ensures that the learner can demonstrate understanding, effective practice and leadership in adult care.



This diploma is formed of mandatory and optional units. The mandatory units listed below cover core competencies while optional units allow learners to choose from a variety of areas to tailor the qualification to their needs, interests and to reflect the context of their work:

- communication
- personal development
- values and behaviours
- health and wellbeing
- responsibilities
- safeguarding.

Read more about what the qualification include [here](#).

How it helps care and support workers

This qualification will help learners who already exhibit, and have the desire to develop further, specialist skills and knowledge in their area of responsibility which enables them to lead in areas such as assessment or enablement.

Learners will demonstrate responsibility for assessing performance and quality of care delivery. Learners may provide coaching and mentoring to their teams who will look to them for inspiration, and leadership.

Learners could work in a variety of settings in adult social care, including residential care, domiciliary care or day centres. The qualification is suitable for lead personal assistants who work as part of a personal assistant team at a senior level.

There are a wide range of optional units to support areas of specialism, including:

- learning disability services
- residential care
- leadership.
- end of life care
- domiciliary care
- dementia care
- healthcare support

The content is applicable to a variety of senior practice and lead practitioner roles in adult social care, for example community care officer, physiotherapy assistant, re-ablement support worker, social work assistant or telecare assistant.

Who offers it?

This qualification is available from a range of approved learning providers, including a number of Skills for Care's [endorsed learning providers](#).

Is there funding available?

Yes, adult social care employers in England can claim up to £1,050 per staff member on completion of the Level 4 Diploma in Adult Care.

[Find out more about the Workforce Development Fund](#).

When should it be undertaken?

When a learner has achieved a level of self-development to be recognised as a lead practitioner within the care team, contributing to, promoting and sustaining a values-based culture at an operational level. A lead practitioner has a greater depth of knowledge and expertise of particular conditions being experienced by the user of services. They will have specialist skills and knowledge in their area of responsibilities which will allow them to lead in areas such as care needs assessment, occupational therapy, physiotherapy, rehabilitation and enablement, telecare and assistive technology.

How long does it take?

The timeframe can vary but usually this qualification takes twelve to eighteen months to complete.