Level 3 Health and Social Care: Principles and Contexts

Guidance For Teaching
Unit 9

UNIT 9:
INVESTIGATING CONTEMPORARY HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE ISSUES IN WALES

Introduction:
The principal aim of this unit guide is to support teaching and learning and act as a companion to the Specification. Each unit guide offers a detailed explanation of key points in the Specification and aims to explain complex areas of subject content.

Programme of study:
The activities provided here are suggestions only for developing learner knowledge. Each centre must decide whether the activities are appropriate for their learners, and it is acknowledged that local conditions may determine the approach adopted. Although some of the suggested activities may involve sector engagement, please note that the majority of the activities are designed to take place within the classroom. Learners develop knowledge and understanding through the experience they acquire while carrying out each activity. Formative feedback is crucial to the learning, to ensure that the learner is developing the knowledge and skills necessary to achieve the best possible grades. Examples of activities have been given in this guidance that provide plenty of opportunity for formative feedback.

Overview of content:
Research is an important aspect of the health and social care sector. Research can help find answers to things that are unknown, fill gaps in knowledge, inform the development of new and revised legislation, policies and strategies, and transform the way that health and social care professionals deliver care.

In this unit, learners will understand the range of research undertaken in health and social care, who undertakes it and how it is presented and used to improve health and social care provision, and individual health and well-being in Wales.

Learners will develop the knowledge and skills to enable them to undertake their own secondary research into a contemporary issue of their choice and make recommendations for further research.

Assessment:
A non-examination assessment which requires candidates to undertake their own secondary research into a contemporary issue of their choice and make recommendations for further research.

The tasks for this non-examination assessment will remain the same for the lifetime of the specification and is as published in the Assessment Pack available from the WJEC secure website.

An example of programme of study for Unit 9:
Investigating contemporary health and social care issues in Wales

Topic Area	Activities	Resources	Homework
9.1 Contemporary issues in health and social care	Introduction to unit content and assessment methods. Learners to decide what is meant by the key term 'Contemporary Issues' Learners to come up with a range of contemporary issues that are currently affecting individuals in Wales. Learners to create a mind map about different contemporary issues that they feel are affecting individuals in Wales. Learners to be given a news article or watch a news report about a contemporary issue.	• The Office for National Statistics (ONS) https://www.ons.gov.uk/ • Public Health Wales (PHW) https://phw.nhs.wales/ • Stats Wales https://statswales.gov.wales/Catalogue • BBC News Wales Wales - BBC News • Wales Online WalesOnline: News, sport, weather and events from across Wales • ITV News Wales https://www.itv.com/news/wales	WJEC online Resources. Learners to research contemporary issues in Wales. Learners to find a current news article about a contemporary issue Wales.
	Learners to discuss the key term health and well-being. Learners to discuss what are Physical, Intellectual, Language, Emotional and Social needs.	• health authorities https://www.gov.wales/nhs-wales-health-boards-and-trusts • local authorities Social Services (flintshire.gov.uk)	Learner to produce a poster about the effects of the contemporary issue.

	Learners to research and identify how each contemporary issue affects the health and well-being of individuals (Physical, Intellectual, Language, Emotional and Social needs) Learners to be given a case study about an individual and a contemporary issue and discuss how it could affect them.	• Public Health Wales (PHW) https://phw.nhs.wales/ • Social Care Wales (SCW) Social Care Wales | Home - Social Care Wales • third sector organisations.	Learners to produce their own easy-read resource about the contemporary issue.
	Learners to be consider a scenario about an individual and a contemporary issue and discuss how it could affect them. Learners to identify what is meant by the term Health and social care services. Learners to create a mind map about which services fall under the different services. Learners to identify what is meant by the term Health and social care sectors. Learners to identify on their mind map about which services fall under the different services. Learners to research and identify a contemporary issue and how they affect the health and social care services in Wales. Learners to find a news article or watch a news report about a contemporary issue and how they affect the health and social care services in Wales.	• health authorities https://www.gov.wales/nhs-wales-health-boards-and-trusts • local authorities https://www.flintshire.gov.uk/en/Resident/Social-Services/Home.aspx • Public Health Wales (PHW) Home - Public Health Wales (nhs.wales) • Social Care Wales (SCW) https://socialcare.wales/ • third sector organisations. • BBC News Wales Wales - BBC News • Wales Online WalesOnline: News, sport, weather and events from across Wales • ITV News Wales https://www.itv.com/news/wales	Learner to research how the contemporary issue affects the services in Wales. Learners to find a current news article about how contemporary issues are affecting services in Wales.

Topic Area	Activities	Resources	Homework
9.2 The use of research in health and social care	Learners to discuss the key term research. Learners to discuss why research is collected for health and social care services in Wales. Learners to complete a mind map of how research in health and social care can be used. Learners to be shown infographics, graphs or charts about a contemporary issue and then discuss why the information is important and how it could be used.	• health authorities https://www.gov.wales/nhs-wales-health-boards-and-trusts • local authorities https://www.flintshire.gov.uk/en/Resident/Social-Services/Home.aspx • The Office for National Statistics (ONS) https://www.ons.gov.uk/ • Public Health Wales (PHW) Home - Public Health Wales (nhs.wales) • Social Care Wales (SCW) https://socialcare.wales/ • Stats Wales https://statswales.gov.wales/Catalogue • third sector organisations.	WJEC online Resources Learner to research and find facts and statistics about contemporary issues.
	Learners to research who collects information in Wales. Learners to research individually/in pairs/groups organisations involved in the production and publication of research (including data) for health and social care. Who they are. Aim of the organisation.	• health authorities https://www.gov.wales/nhs-wales-health-boards-and-trusts • local authorities https://www.flintshire.gov.uk/en/Resident/Social-Services/Home.aspx • The Office for National Statistics (ONS) https://www.ons.gov.uk/	WJEC online Resources Learner to research organisations.

	Type of data that they collect. How they use the data. • health authorities • local authorities • The Office for National Statistics (ONS) • Public Health Wales (PHW) • Social Care Wales (SCW) Stats Wales	Public Health Wales (PHW) Home - Public Health Wales (nhs.wales) • Social Care Wales (SCW) https://socialcare.wales/ • Stats Wales https://statswales.gov.wales/Catalogue • third sector organisations.	Learners to produce their own easy-read resource about the organisation.
	Learners to research individually/in pairs/groups the range of research available in health and social care Learners to be given a name of an initiative or organisation that uses data, and then to identify the research being used. • 1000 Lives Plus (NHS Wales) (now known as Improvement Cymru) • Health and well-being measures for children (Welsh Government) • Social Services: The national outcomes framework for people who need care and support and carers who need support (Welsh Government) • The National Welsh Adult Survey for Wales (Welsh Government, Stats Wales)	• 1000 Lives Plus (NHS Wales) (now known as Improvement Cymru) https://phw.nhs.wales/services-and-teams/improvement-cymru/about-us/history/ • Health and well-being measures for children (Welsh Government) Welsh Government health and wellbeing measures for children - Understanding Society. • Social Services: The national outcomes framework for people who need care and support and carers who need support (Welsh Government) The national outcomes framework for people who need care and support and carers who need support, 2014-15: working document	Carer Research and Knowledge Exchange Network (CAREN) (open.ac.uk)	WJEC online Resources. Learner to research an initiative or organisation. Learners to produce their own easy-read resource on initiative or organisation. Learners to collect own research on the initiative or organisation.

	• 'Together for Mental Health' – A Strategy for Mental Health and Well-being in Wales (Welsh Government) • Well-being of Wales Annual Report (Welsh Government) • NHS Health in Wales website • Welsh Cancer Intelligence and Surveillance Unit (WCISU).	• The National Welsh Adult Survey for Wales (Welsh Government, Stats Wales) https://www.gov.wales/national-survey-wales • Together for Mental Health' – A Strategy for Mental Health and Well-being in Wales (Welsh Government) together-for-mental-health-delivery-plan-2016-19-progress-report-october-2016-march-2018.pdf (gov.wales) • Well-being of Wales Annual Report (Welsh Government) https://www.gov.wales/wellbeing-wales-2021 • NHS Health in Wales website https://www.nhs.wales/ • Welsh Cancer Intelligence and Surveillance Unit (WCISU). About Us - Public Health Wales (nhs.wales) .	

Topic Area	Activities	Resources	Homework
9.3 Research methods in health and social care	Learners to discuss the key terms primary and secondary research. Learners to discuss the difference between primary and secondary research. Learners to identify which research is classed as primary or secondary. • experiments • tests • fieldwork • focus groups • formal and informal observations • literature reviews, including reviews of books, articles, case studies, journals, websites, Government publications • questionnaires/surveys • structured and unstructured interviews • the use of statistical databases/published statistics. Learners to discuss the key terms qualitative and quantitative data. Learners to discuss the difference between qualitative and quantitative data. Learners to be given a piece of research and they are to decide the type of research it is. Learners to find their own example of the different types of research.	• health authorities https://www.gov.wales/nhs-wales-health-boards-and-trusts • local authorities https://www.flintshire.gov.uk/en/Resident/Social-Services/Home.aspx • Public Health Wales (PHW) https://phw.nhs.wales • Social Care Wales (SCW) https://socialcare.wales • third sector organisations. • BBC News Wales https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/wales • Wales Online https://www.walesonline.co.uk • ITV News Wales https://www.itv.com/news/wales	WJEC online Resources Learner to collect their own research Learners to produce their own checklist on how to collect research Learners to find current news article about a contemporary issue.

	Learners to be given a news article about a contemporary issue and will work out the type of research included in the article. Learners to be given a case study or scenario about a contemporary issue and will need to decide which research methods they will use to collect research.		
	Learners to discuss the key term research methodologies. Learners to complete a mind map of research methodologies. • experiments • tests • fieldwork • focus groups • formal and informal observations • literature reviews, including reviews of books, articles, case studies, journals, websites, Government publications • questionnaires/surveys • structured and unstructured interviews • the use of statistical databases/published statistics. Learners to be given a piece of research and they are to decide the type of research it is. Leaners to find their own example of the different types of research.	• health authorities [NHS Wales health boards and trusts | GOV.WALES](#) • local authorities https://www.flintshire.gov.uk/en/Resident/Social-Services/Home.aspx • Public Health Wales (PHW) https://phw.nhs.wales/ • Social Care Wales (SCW) https://socialcare.wales/ • third sector organisations • BBC News Wales https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/wales • Wales Online https://www.walesonline.co.uk/ • ITV News Wales https://www.itv.com/news/wales	WJEC online Resources Learner to research and find their own research for their project. Learners to produce their own research checklist for their project.

Learners to discuss the advantages and disadvantages of different types of research methods.	• health authorities https://www.gov.wales/nhs-wales-health-boards-and-trusts	WJEC online
		Resources
• experiments • tests • fieldwork • focus groups • formal and informal observations • literature reviews, including reviews of books, articles, case studies, journals, websites, Government publications • questionnaires/surveys • structured and unstructured interviews • the use of statistical databases/published statistics.	• local authorities Social Services (flintshire.gov.uk) • Public Health Wales (PHW) Home - Public Health Wales (nhs.wales) • Social Care Wales (SCW) https://socialcare.wales/ • third sector organisations • BBC News Wales https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/wales • Wales Online https://www.walesonline.co.uk/ • ITV News Wales https://www.itv.com/news/wales	Learner to research and find their own research for their project. Learners to find current news article about a contemporary issue. Learners to find current research about a contemporary issue.

	Learners to discuss the key terms and phrases.	• health authorities NHS Wales health boards and trusts	GOV.WALES	WJEC online Resources
	Learners could be given a piece of research to critically evaluate the credibility, reliability and validity of sources of information, including data. Learners to find their own piece of research to critically evaluate the credibility, reliability and validity of sources of information, including data	• local authorities https://www.flintshire.gov.uk/en/Resident/Social-Services/Home.aspx • Public Health Wales (PHW) https://phw.nhs.wales/ • Social Care Wales (SCW) https://socialcare.wales/ • third sector organisations. • BBC News Wales https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/wales • Wales Online https://www.walesonline.co.uk/ • ITV News Wales https://www.itv.com/news/wales	Learner to research and find their own research for their project. Learners to find current news article about a contemporary issue. Learners to produce their own checklist to critically evaluate the research.

Topic Area	Activities	Resources	Homework
9.4 Planning research in health and social care	Learners to complete a mind map about what to include in a plan. Tutor-led discussion about how to plan research, including: • providing a clear project rationale that is relevant to the sector • setting appropriate and realistic aims, and objectives Learners to discuss the key terms and phrases. Learners to find out more about what is a rationale. Learners to outline their aims and objectives.	• Project Planner Project Planner - for Print (wjec.co.uk) https://www.crazylaura.com/free-project-planner-printable/ • Rationale https://www.wikihow.com/Write-a-Study-Rationale • Aims and Objectives https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S6gJBbp_1nY https://www.researchprospect.com/how-to-write-dissertation-aims-and-objectives/	WJEC online Resources Learner to produce a draft plan. Learners to produce their own checklist for their project plan.
	Tutor-led discussion about how to plan research, including: • planning appropriate and relevant research methods • defining priorities and success criteria Learners to discuss the key terms and phrases. Learners to decide the appropriate and relevant research methods which they will be using. Learners to outline the priorities and success criteria of their project.	• Project Planner https://www.wjec.co.uk/media/dqijxphd/project-planner-for-print.pdf • Research Methods https://www.scribbr.com/category/methodology/	WJEC online Resources Learner to produce a draft plan. Learners to produce their own checklist for their project plan.

	Tutor-led discussion about how to plan research, including: • how resources, timescales and potential risks will be managed • managing and prioritising work Learners to discuss the key terms and phrases. Learners to discuss how resources, timescales and potential risks will be managed. Learners to outline how they will manage and prioritise work.	• Project Planner https://www.wjec.co.uk/media/dqijxphd/project-planner-for-print.pdf • Project Management https://www.projectsmart.co.uk/scheduling/project-management-time-estimates-and-planning.php https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4DSV-_2pqmI https://instagantt.com/free-gantt-chart-template-for-excel	WJEC online Resources Learner to produce a draft plan. Learners to produce their own checklist for their project plan.
	Tutor-led discussion about how to plan research, including: • making ethical considerations • recognising bias and possible vested interest Learners to discuss the key terms and phrases. Learners to discuss how they will ensure ethical considerations are part of their plan. Learners to discuss how to recognises bias and possible vested interest within their project.	• Project Planner https://www.wjec.co.uk/media/dqijxphd/project-planner-for-print.pdf • Ethics https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/data-ethics-framework/data-ethics-framework-2020 https://www.managementstudyguide.com/importance-of-ethics-in-project-management.htm https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iSD4ta9gaGU	WJEC online Resources Learner to produce a draft plan. Learners to produce their own checklist for their project plan.

Topic Area	Activities	Resources	Homework
9.5 Carrying out secondary research into a contemporary issue in health and social care	Tutor-led discussion about how to carry out a research project, to include: • conducting secondary research using a range of resources • identifying the limitations of the research • identifying patterns and trends • making connections between different sources • interpreting and analysing relevant information and data making valid judgements • understanding relevant ethical issues • drawing reasoned conclusions • making appropriate recommendations. Learners to look at key terminology, phrases and their meanings. Learners to find out more about each part of a research project and discuss how they support the success of the project.	• health authorities https://www.gov.wales/nhs-wales-health-boards-and-trusts • local authorities https://www.flintshire.gov.uk/en/Resident/Social-Services/Home.aspx • Public Health Wales (PHW) https://phw.nhs.wales/ • Social Care Wales (SCW) https://socialcare.wales/ • third sector organisations • BBC News Wales https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/wales • Wales Online https://www.walesonline.co.uk/ • ITV News Wales https://www.itv.com/news/wales	WJEC online Resources Learner to produce a draft plan for their project. Learners to produce their own checklist for carrying out their project.