

Unit 208

Understand health and safety in social care settings

Level: 2

Credit value: 4

NDAQ number: R/602/3179

Unit aim

This unit is aimed at those who are interested in, or new to, working in a social care setting. It introduces knowledge and understanding of areas of health and safety required to working in a social care setting.

Learning outcomes

There are **eleven** learning outcomes to this unit. The learner will be able to:

1. Understand the different responsibilities relating to health and safety in social care settings.
2. Understand the use of risk assessments in relation to health and safety.
3. Understand procedures for responding to accidents and sudden illness.
4. Know how to reduce the spread of infection.
5. Know how to move and handle equipment and other objects safely.
6. Understand the principles of assisting and moving an individual.
7. Know how to handle hazardous substances.
8. Know environmental safety procedures in the social care setting.
9. Know how to manage **stress**.
10. Understand procedures regarding **handling medication**.
11. Understand how to handle and store food safely.

Guided learning hours

It is recommended that 41 guided learning hours are allocated to this unit, although patterns in delivery are likely to vary.

Details of the relationship between the unit and relevant national standards

This unit is linked to HSC 22, 221 and 223

Endorsement of the unit by a sector or other appropriate body

This unit is endorsed by Skills for Care and Development

Assessment

This unit will be assessed by:

- This unit must be assessed in accordance with Skills for Care and Development's QCF Assessment Principles.

Unit 208 Understand health and safety in social care setting

Learning out comes and assessment criteria

Outcome 1 Understand the different responsibilities relating to health and safety in social care settings

The learner can:

- 1.1 List legislation relating to general health and safety in a social care setting.
- 1.2 Describe the main points of health and safety **policies and procedures**.
- 1.3 Outline the main health and safety responsibilities of:
 - a) the social care worker
 - b) the employer or manager
 - c) **individuals**
- 1.4 Identify tasks relating to health and safety that should only be carried out with special training.
- 1.5 Describe how to access additional support and information relating to health and safety.

Outcome 2 Understand the use of risk assessments in relation to health and safety

The learner can:

- 2.1 Define what is meant by 'hazard' and 'risk'.
- 2.2 Describe how to use a health and safety risk assessment.
- 2.3 Explain how and when to report potential health and safety risks that have been identified.
- 2.4 Describe how risk assessment can help address dilemmas between an individual's rights and health and safety concerns.

Outcome 3 understand procedures for responding to accidents and sudden illness

The learner can:

- 3.1 Describe different types of accidents and sudden illness that may occur in a social care setting.
- 3.2 Outline the procedures to be followed if an accident or sudden illness should occur.
- 3.3 Explain why it is important for emergency first aid tasks only to be carried out by qualified first aiders.

Outcome 4 Know how to reduce the spread of infection

The learner can:

- 4.1 List routes by which an infection can get into the body.
- 4.2 Describe ways in which own health or hygiene might pose a risk to an individual or to others at work.
- 4.3 Explain the most thorough method for hand washing.
- 4.4 Describe when to use different types of **personal protective equipment**.

Outcome 5 Know how to move and handle equipment and other objects safely

The learner can:

- 5.1 Identify legislation that relates to moving and handling.
- 5.2 List principles for safe moving and handling.
- 5.3 Explain why it is important for moving and handling tasks to be carried out following specialist training.

Outcome 6 Understand the principles of assisting and moving an individual

The learner can:

- 6.1 Explain why it is important to have specialist training before assisting and moving individual.
- 6.2 Explain the importance of following an individual's care plan and fully engaging with them when assisting and moving.

Outcome 7 Know how to handle hazardous substances

The learner can:

- 7.1 Identify hazardous substances that may be found in the social care setting.
- 7.2 Describe safe practices for:
 - Storing hazardous substances
 - Using hazardous substances
 - Disposing of hazardous substances

Outcome 8 Know environmental safety procedures in the social care setting

The learner can:

- 8.1 Outline procedures to be followed in the social care setting to prevent:
 - Fire
 - Gas leak
 - Floods
 - Intruding
 - Security breach
- 8.2 Outline procedures to be followed in the social care setting in the event of:
 - Fire
 - Gas leak
 - Floods
 - Intruding
 - Security breach

Outcome 9 Know how to manage stress

The learner can:

- 9.1 Identify common signs and indicators of stress.
- 9.2 Identify circumstances that tend to trigger own stress.
- 9.3 Describe ways to manage stress.

Outcome 10 Understand procedures regarding handling medication

The learner can:

- 10.1 Describe the main points of agreed procedures about handling medication.
- 10.2 Identify who is responsible for medication in a social care setting.
- 10.3 Explain why medication must only be handled following specialist training.

Outcome 11 Understand how to handle and store food safely

The learner can:

- 11.1 Identify food standards relevant to a social care setting.
- 11.2 Explain how to:
 - Store food
 - Maximise hygiene when handling food
 - Dispose of food
- 11.3 Identify common hazards when handling and storing food.

Range

Policies and procedures

Agreed ways of working as well as formal policies and procedures

Individual

Refers to someone requiring care or support

Tasks

The learner should not carry out without special training may include those relating to:

- Use of equipment
- First aid
- Medication
- Assisting and moving
- Emergency procedures
- Food handling and preparation

Personal protective equipment

Refers to any protective equipment or clothing that an employer must provide where risks have been identified. This may include:

- Gloves
- Aprons
- Masks
- Hair nets

Care plan

May be known by other names (eg: support plan, individual plan). It is the document where day-to-day requirements and preferences for care and support are detailed.

Stress

Can have positive as well as negative effects, but in this unit the word is used to refer to negative stress.

Handling medication

May include –

- Ordering
- Receiving
- Storage
- Administration
- Recording
- Disposal