# Job of the Week – Care Worker

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## Job description:

Also known as Care Assistants, Support Workers, Nursing Home Assistants; Care workers help vulnerable people manage their daily activities and live as independently as possible.

## Pathway routes into the industry You can get into this job through:

- a university course
- an apprenticeship
- volunteering
- applying directly

At college or through an apprenticeship you could study for a Level 2 or 3 Health and Social Care BTEC. You can also take a Health and Social Care T-Level at college.

#### Entry Requirements

Depending on the pathway you take you'll usually need:

- 2 or fewer GCSEs at grades 3 to 1 (D to G), or equivalent, for a level 1 course and some intermediate apprenticeships
- 2 or more GCSEs at grades 9 to 3 (A\* to D), or equivalent, for a level 2 course and some intermediate apprenticeships
- 4 or 5 GCSEs at grades 9 to 4 (A\* to C), or equivalent, including English and maths for a T level or advanced apprenticeship

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#### **Subjects:**

Health and Social Care can support this career choice.

## Skills and Knowledge You will need:

- sensitivity and understanding
- a desire to help people
- the ability to work well with others
- patience and the ability to remain calm in stressful situations
- the ability to accept criticism and work well under pressure
- to be thorough and pay attention to detail
- customer service skills
- excellent verbal communication skills
- to be able to carry out basic tasks on a computer or handheld device

<u>Day-to-day Tasks</u> You will usually:

- help with washing and dressing
- make food or help with eating
- get to know their interests and needs
- do household jobs, like washing clothes and shopping

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- monitor their weight and record any concerns they have
- check they're taking their prescribed medications
- support their physical and mental wellbeing through activities

Salary: £14,000 as a starter, rising to £25,000 for an care worker.

