

## Section 2 - Connect with your University



### Reading List - Health & Social Care

#### Free short courses – Health and Social Care

<https://www.open.edu/openlearn/body-mind/free-courses>

These courses may help in preparation for university, apprenticeships or work and will keep you engaged in the learning process.

- They are produced by The Open University.
- You can spend as long as you like on an OpenLearn course, plus, if you sign up you can track your progress and work towards a **statement of participation**.
- The courses always focus on a specific area of learning. Some focus on important and fascinating academic subjects, whilst others help you develop skills needed for study or work.

<https://www.open.edu/openlearn/body-mind/free-courses>

#### Learn British Sign language – <http://www.british-sign.co.uk/learn-online-british-sign-language-course/>

Learning BSL may prove to be a vital skill when working and studying within the Health and Social Care Sector. According to the Department for Work and Pensions (2017) there were 24,000 people who used BSL as their first language and only 908 interpreters.

These courses are not free but BSL are only asking you to contribute what you can afford to study the courses.

There are also a lot of free resources that you can access. For example:

[Non-verbal lesson](#)

[Fingerspelling game](#)

[Word search](#)

#### A Patients Journey- <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/career-planning/career-advisers-and-teachers/teaching-resources/patient-journey-toolkit-teachers>

This provides a basic overview of what it is like to work in the NHS. There is a PowerPoint and worksheets for you to complete to further your understanding.

#### Independent research and analysis in Health and Social Care-

<https://www.kingsfund.org.uk/publications>

You will be able to find research in Health and social Care in the format or:

- Reports
- Long reads
- Articles
- Commissioned reports
- Evidence and consultations

Research like this can prove invaluable when completing university assignments. This is a great opportunity for to familiarise yourself with key content.

**Research methods in Health and Social Care** <https://www.ukdataservice.ac.uk/use-data/teaching/teaching-resources.aspx>

Qualitative Research: <https://www.ukdataservice.ac.uk/use-data/teaching/teaching-resources/qualitative.aspx>

Although this site may look scary at first glance, there are tasks that you can complete for specific studies to further your understanding of qualitative research.

Quantitative research: <https://www.ukdataservice.ac.uk/use-data/teaching/teaching-resources/quantitative-resources.aspx>

You can access some useful factsheets quantitative methods here:

[Methods of data collection in social surveys \(PDF\)](#)

[Likert Scales and Items \(PDF\)](#)

[Evaluating Survey Questions \(PDF\)](#)

[Survey Interviewing.](#)

### **The Department of Health and Social Care**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-of-health-and-social-care>

Here you can access information on:

- Services
- News and communications
- Research and statistics
- Guidance and regulations
- Policy Papers and consultations.