

**Integrated Degree Apprenticeship Social Work  
(incorporating an award of BA (Hons) Social Work)**

**1. PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION**

<b>Date approved:</b>	September 2019
<b>Applies to students commencing study in:</b>	September 2019/January 2020

**2. RECORD OF UPDATES**

<b>Date amended*</b>	<b>Nature of amendment**</b>	<b>Reason for amendment**</b>

### 3. SECTION 1: GENERAL INFORMATION

<b>Awarding body:</b>	Oxford Brookes University
<b>Teaching institution and location:</b>	Oxford Brookes University, Marston Road Campus Jack Straws Lane, Marston OX3 0FL
<b>Language of study:</b>	English
<b>Final awards:</b>	BA(Hons) Social Work (awarded by Oxford Brookes University) Integrated Degree Apprenticeship Social Worker (awarded by the IFA)
<b>Programme title:</b>	Social Work Integrated Degree Apprenticeship
<b>Interim exit awards and award titles available:</b>	unnamed CertHE /DipHE
<b>Brookes course code:</b>	??
<b>2UCAS code:</b>	N/A
<b>JACS code:</b>	L500
<b>HECoS code:</b>	101307
<b>Mode of delivery:</b>	Face to face/On campus Full Time
<b>Mode and duration of study:</b>	Normal completion time - 36 months
<b>QAA subject benchmark statement which apply to the programme:</b>	N/A
<b>Apprenticeship Standard:</b>	<b>Integrated Degree Apprenticeship for Social Worker</b> <a href="https://www.instituteforapprenticeships.org/apprenticeship-standards/social-worker-degree/">https://www.instituteforapprenticeships.org/apprenticeship-standards/social-worker-degree/</a>
<b>Professional accreditation attached to the programme:</b>	HCPC
<b>University Regulations:</b>	The programme conforms to the University Regulations for the year of entry as published/archived at: <a href="http://www.brookes.ac.uk/regulations/">http://www.brookes.ac.uk/regulations/</a>

## **SECTION 2: WHY STUDY THIS PROGRAMME?**

### 2.1 Rationale for/distinctiveness of the programme

This course provides an opportunity for both new and experienced social care workers to bring together practice experience and theoretical knowledge whilst developing leadership qualities for a rewarding career in social work. This route towards social work qualification will enable you to be paid whilst training; it will be co-funded by the Government and your employer. Your employer will provide day release opportunities from your work post to enable you additional time to focus on your studies. Oxford Brookes University will work collaboratively with your employer to provide you with both academic learning and on- job training. You will benefit from both experienced educators and experienced practitioners who will help teach, assess, mentor and guide you throughout your professional development. You will be supported through one-to-one supervision and small group peer learning sets delivered within your workplace, and you will have the opportunity to learn from and with other social care workers following the same apprenticeship route as you.

You will be supported to develop the appropriate skills to meet the standards of the Social Work Apprenticeship, including having the ability to communicate openly, honestly and accurately; listen to people and apply professional curiosity to evaluate and assess what information you need to gather, to provide quality advice, support or care; treat people with compassion, dignity and respect and work together to empower positive change; adapt your approach according to the situation and context. You will need to commit to continuous learning within social work with curiosity and critical reflection and adhere to the Professional Body's Standards of Conduct, Performance and Ethics.

This Apprenticeship route programme includes key elements of an already established programme and leads to an academic University qualification as well as an apprenticeship qualification and eligibility to apply for registration as a social worker with the professional body for social workers. It is designed and delivered to high professional standards, covering social work knowledge, values and practice skills. The programme incorporates interdisciplinary learning, which together with the focus on critical self-reflection and interpersonal skills, enables graduates to work effectively within health and social care teams with a wide range of service users. Blended learning is used effectively across the programme to impart knowledge and promote discussion, as well as to enable you to develop digital and information literacy.

### **Aims of the Programme**

The programme aims to enable you, upon completion, to:

- Apply for registration with the Professional Registry body
- Demonstrate integrated knowledge, skills and values which underpin action, reflection and critical evaluation of social work practice
- Provide a portfolio of practice experience relevant to local social work employers

## **SECTION 3: PROGRAMME LEARNING OUTCOMES**

*Updated Mar 2018*

On satisfactory completion of the programme, you will be able to demonstrate:

**a) Academic literacy**

Demonstrate a systematic understanding of the core areas of knowledge relevant to social work, including their application to practice and service delivery.

Apply a repertoire of core social work skills (this also fits research literacy, critical self-awareness and personal literacy, digital and information literacy and global citizenship).

Apply core knowledge and understanding to engage in effective relationships with service users and carers (this also fits global citizenship).

Analyse and appraise previous learning and experience in order to maintain your fitness to practice and identify your current and future learning needs (this also fits critical self-awareness and personal literacy).

Communicate effectively with service users and carers and with other professionals.

Integrate a clear understanding of the legal, confidentiality and ethical issues and codes of values in order to practice within the legal and ethical boundaries of social work (this also fits critical self-awareness and personal literacy).

Consistently exercise an appropriate level of autonomy and initiative in individual decision-making within the context of supervisory, collaborative, ethical and organisational requirements in order to maintain your fitness to practice (this also fits critical self-awareness and personal literacy).

**b) Research literacy**

Apply research and enquiry techniques with reflective awareness, to collect, analyse and interpret relevant information. Demonstrate critical evaluation of knowledge and evidence from a range of sources.

**c) Critical self-awareness and personal literacy**

Critically reflect on your performance and take responsibility for modifying action in the light of this in order to practice safely and effectively within your scope of practice (this also fits digital and information literacy)

**d) Digital and information literacy**

Be able to use digital and information literacy in an integrated way, in specific practice contexts.

**e) Active citizenship**

Acknowledge and understand the potential and limitations of social work as a practice based discipline to effect individual and social change.

Be aware of the impact of culture, equality and diversity and practice in a non-discriminatory manner

**SECTION 4: CURRICULUM CONTENT & STRUCTURE**

**4.1 PROGRAMME STRUCTURE AND REQUIREMENTS:**

All taught modules are compulsory and contribute to the final qualification.

Year	Semester	Module	Title	Credits	Status	
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1	1	<a href="#">U48800</a>	Human Growth and Development 1	15 level 4	Compulsory	Year 1; Level 4 Taught Modules  Total Credit: 120
1	1	<a href="#">U48807</a>	Evidence in Professional Practice	15 level 4	Compulsory	
1	1	<a href="#">U48805</a>	Skill Development and Professional Communications	30 level 4	Compulsory	
1	2	<a href="#">U48801</a>	Human Growth and Development 2	15 level 4	Compulsory	
1	2	<a href="#">U48803</a>	Legal Aspects of Social Care	15 level 4	Compulsory	
1	2	<a href="#">U48804</a>	Social Policy	15 level 4	Compulsory	
1	2	<a href="#">U48806</a>	Safeguarding People at Risk	15 level 4	Compulsory	
2	2	<a href="#">U48834</a>	Social Work with Children and Young People	15 level 5	Compulsory	Year 2; Level 5 Taught Modules  Total Credit: 120
2	2	<a href="#">U48823</a>	Mental Health Social Work	15 level 5	Compulsory	
2	1	<a href="#">U48838</a>	Support to Social Work Practice	15 level 5	Compulsory	
2	1	<a href="#">U48840</a>	Working with Teams, Groups and Communities	15 level 5	Compulsory	
2	2	<a href="#">U48821</a>	Social Work with Adults	15 level 5	Compulsory	
2	2	<a href="#">U43744</a>	Research Methods and Analysis	15 level 5	Compulsory	
2	1+2	<a href="#">U48839</a>	Social Work Practice 1	30 level 5	Compulsory	
3	1	<a href="#">U48896</a>	Practice Learning Interventions	15 level 6 Hons	Compulsory	Year 3; Level 6 Taught Modules  Total Credit: 80
3	1+2	<a href="#">U488XX</a>	Apprenticeship Social Work Practice 2	15 level 6 Hons	Compulsory	
3	2	<a href="#">U48895</a>	Professional Consolidation	15 level 6 Hons	Compulsory	
3	2	<a href="#">U48874</a>	Decision Making and Social Wellbeing	15 level 6 Hons	Compulsory	

Code	End Point Assessment - title and description	Integrated	Non integrated
<b>TBC</b>	EPA	Y	N

#### 4.2 PROGRESSION AND AWARD REQUIREMENTS

All modules on the programme are compulsory.

There are three thresholds for progression across the programme:

'Readiness for Practice',  
'End of First Placement' and  
'End of Last Placement'.

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These correspond with the three years of study on the programme; there are pre-requisites attached to certain modules to ensure students cannot progress to the next stage (in relation to practice) before completing the previous one.

#### **4.3 PROFESSIONAL REQUIREMENTS**

Completion of this programme will lead to an Integrated Degree Apprenticeship in Social Work certified by the Institute for Apprenticeships and Technology Education which includes a BA (Hons) Social Work awarded by Oxford Brookes University. The End Point Assessment must be complete following successful completion of gateway requirements in order for the Apprenticeship and the BA (Hons) to be awarded.

The protected title of social worker can only be included in academic awards which allow students to apply for HCPC registration. Any student leaving this programme, for whatever reason, without completing all the compulsory modules and reaching the honours degree standard, will not be eligible to apply for registration with the HCPC as a social worker.

## **SECTION 5: TEACHING AND ASSESSMENT**

The programme handbook provides a commentary for you on how the Graduate Attributes are developed through the programme. In addition, you can expect to be introduced to the concept of Graduate Attributes during induction, and will have discussions with your academic advisor, throughout your studies, which will focus on identifying module content and activities leading to their acquisition of Graduate Attributes, and your experience of them.

### Teaching and Learning Methods

A range of teaching and learning methods are used on the programme including lectures, seminars, small and large group work, individual practice learning in agency settings and tutorials. Most sessions

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are participatory, with the students contributing formally and informally to discussion using your knowledge from reading, research and practice experience. Your time is split between learning within the University and learning within your workplace. You will have direct contact time and independent study with a typical 15 credit module having a total of 150 hours of student effort. Modules are either classroom based, practice based or distance learning. Aspects of diversity and inclusion are taught, practiced and assessed across each year of the programme (see the learning outcomes grid in the programme handbook). In addition, you will be developing your knowledge, skills and behaviours within your usual workplace under the guidance of your workplace supervisor. This workplace learning will be referred to as your Work-Based Learning (WBL).

### Assessment Strategy

The programme uses a range of assessment tools for the University based modules. These include case studies, portfolios, presentations, exams and essays. For the agency-based practice learning modules the students have to present a portfolio of evidence of capability to meet the requirements of the professional body. The assessment strategy is informed by the Brookes Assessment Compact in terms of each module having formative and summative, a moderation process, objective marking, provision of qualitative feedback and quantitative marks by reference to the assessment grid. A range of practiced and/or assessed tasks, activities and assessments contribute to your development of Graduate Attributes throughout the social work programme. For example in relation to Academic Literacy you will undertake literacy searches and explore what is meant by evidence based knowledge and practice: Research Literacy utilises critical approaches to communication theories and methods and application of reflective cycles in a critical manner; Critical self-awareness and personal literacy is a central part of the practice learning experience where you will use reflective diaries to explore how to make best use of learning opportunities and grapple with ethical dilemmas. Digital and information literacy is developed using computer tests and technology to discuss and assess aspects of the programme. Active citizenship makes use of cross cultural understanding and teaching cultural diversity to raise awareness of diversity and inclusion issues. Included within this learning you will be required to complete two Practice placement modules, of which at least one must be in an alternative setting to your usual workplace. This may be either within the same agency or an external agency, but the second and Last Practice placement, must be within a setting where you are able to undertake statutory tasks. Once you have completed 300 credits of your Social Work degree, and been given a provisional grade and achieved other specified criteria outlined within the Apprenticeship Standards, the gateway for the End Point Assessment will occur.

Alongside your University based modules, your Work-Based Learning practice will be evaluated against standards which reflect where you are expected to be at for each developmental stage of your learning. You will complete a programme long portfolio, in which you will include samples of evidence to demonstrate how you have met these standards.

Across your programme, you will receive support, supervision and assessment from both University representatives and representatives from your workplace. University lecturers, workplace supervisors will work in partnership with experts by experience and you to ensure you are assessed to meet the Apprenticeship Standards for the Integrated Degree Apprenticeship Social Work.

## **SECTION 6: ADMISSION TO THE PROGRAMME**

### **6.1 ENTRY REQUIREMENTS**

#### **Academic entry requirements:**

- A-Level: BBC or equivalent
- or IB Diploma: 30 points
- or BTEC: DDM
- UCAS Tariff points 112
- British Council IELTS: overall score of level 6.5 or above

- English at level 2 or equivalent
- Maths at level 2 or equivalent is discretionary at the entry point; however, it is a gateway requirement to the End Point Assessment and must be met by this stage

**Employment/job role requirements:**

- Employed in a position with work-based opportunities which will allow you to successfully complete the apprenticeship

**Additional requirements**

- A driving license valid for the full duration of the course is desirable along with ability to travel to and access a variety of venues.

**Interviews and assessments to check suitability:**

The delivery team will meet with candidates the employer would like to put forward to ensure that the programme is a good fit in terms of their previous experience, prior attainment and the apprentices career aims.

If enrolment has been agreed, then continuation on the programme will be contingent on satisfactory clearances including fitness for practice and a Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS)

**Additionally, for applicants aged over 21 years:**

Applicants who do not meet all of the academic entry criteria can still be considered if they have significant and relevant life or work experience with people at risk

**6.2 DBS AND OTHER PRE-COURSE CHECKS REQUIRED**

Students are required to have an up-to-date DBS check completed by their employer before applying to commence their studies at the University.

**SECTION 7: PREPARATION FOR EMPLOYMENT**

You will be employed in a social care setting which provides the opportunities to demonstrate the requirement of this programme; you will be supported in the workplace by a practice supervisor.

Alongside support in the workplace, apprentices will be able to access University careers services to support individual career planning or personal development needs.