

A guide to careers in

**HUMAN FOUNDATION ECONOMY
(HEALTH, EDUCATION & PUBLIC SERVICES)**





The world of work can often change quickly. Brexit, the Covid pandemic and global conflicts have all been factors that have created challenges and opportunities for businesses.

Skills are often the number one priority for employers; and having individuals with the right skills and qualifications is essential for success.

Some young people may already know what they want to do, but many often don't know what careers exist across south-east Wales or how they would even find the job of their dreams.

This booklet provides information to support you to get into your ideal job role or to boost your career plans.





About the Cardiff Capital Region Skills Partnership

The Cardiff Capital Region Skills Partnership (CCRSP) works closely with employers, providers of education and training and Welsh Government. We work with businesses and other organisations to identify skills gaps and shortages which is known as *labour market intelligence* (LMI).

Using this information, we work with Welsh Government to ensure that the courses and qualifications offered by education and training providers are fit for purpose. This helps to make sure that the opportunities in the region are maximised and employers can recruit local talent which helps the economy to thrive.

The CCRSP plays an important role to help people progress their learning journey and future careers.



Human Foundation Economy (Health, Education & Public Services)

The foundational economy is built from the activities which provide the essential goods and services for everyday life, regardless of the social status of consumers.

The services provided within the health, education, social care, childcare and emergency services sectors are generally provided by a mixture of public and private sector organisations.

As of 2019 numbers employed in the public administration, defence, education and health sector, have risen to 216,100 across the region.

According to EMSI data, as of 2021 there were 155,836 jobs specifically in the education, health and social care sectors.

The most common jobs in these sectors are care workers and home carers (11.9%), nurses (10.1%), nursing auxiliaries and assistants (5.1%), primary and nursery education teaching professionals (4.6%), secondary education teaching professionals (4.2%).

In terms of employment this is the largest sector in the region. This means there are many educational pathways available, many of which are funded for you, where you can earn as you learn and not be saddled with student debt into your adult life.

This sector is enormously rewarding whether you choose to work in elderly care, childcare or public services. The vast majority of the professionals in this sector are happy in their roles - partly because their work is meaningful and impactful.

Key job roles include:

- Care workers and home carers
- Nurses, nursing auxiliaries and assistants
- Other registered nurse professionals
- Nursery, primary or secondary education teaching professionals
- Teaching assistants
- Medical practitioners
- Higher education teaching professionals
- Further education teaching professionals
- Educational support assistants
- Welfare and housing associate professionals
- Nursery nurses and assistants
- Cleaners and domestics

What does the future look like?

To put simply - exciting!

Whether you are caring, compassionate, practical, love teaching other new skills or just love interacting with people, why not work in this rewarding industry?



4. Foundation Degree, Vocational Qualifications, HND, Apprenticeships (Level 5)

Types of job roles:

- Further education teaching professionals
- Higher education teaching professionals
- Secondary education teaching professionals

5. Degree, Vocational Qualifications, Apprenticeships (Level 6)

Types of job roles:

- Specialist medical practitioners
- Primary education teaching professionals
- Occupational therapists
- Health services and public health managers and directors
- Social workers

2. AS/A Level, Vocational Qualifications, Apprenticeships (Level 3)

Types of job roles:

- Nursing auxiliaries and assistants
- Welfare and housing associate professionals N.E.C.
- Senior care workers
- Medical secretaries

3. Certificate of HE, Vocational Qualifications, HNC, Apprenticeships (Level 4)

Types of job roles:

- Dental nurses
- Housing officers

1. GCSE A*- C, Vocational Qualifications, Apprenticeships (Level 2)

Types of roles:

- Care workers and home carers
- Higher level teaching assistants
- Early education and childcare assistants
- Receptionists
- Fire service officers (watch manager and below)

Figures are based on median average wages in the SE Wales region, sourced from Lightcast™ “Occupation Summary” (Lightcast™), 2024

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After serving in the Armed Forces for six years, I began working as a support worker at the newly opened children's home, Ty Coryton, in 2009.

Although I initially thought of it as a temporary job, working with the children ignited a passion within me and I soon discovered that I had a natural affinity for the role. I developed strong relationships with the children, families, and staff team which led me to progress from a support worker to a senior support worker and eventually to deputy manager in 2014.

In 2016, I was promoted to the role of registered manager of Ty Coryton, driven by my desire to make a more significant impact on the children's lives.

Working with Orbis in various locations allowed me to broaden my horizons, gain valuable experience in multiple settings and reach another milestone in my career when, in 2020, I was appointed as the regional manager for children's residential services. Throughout my journey, I have had numerous opportunities to enhance my skills and knowledge. I completed qualifications such as NVQs in social care and management, QCF in residential management, and a PPS Level 4 qualification. These equipped me with the necessary expertise to lead and develop others in social care.

I am grateful for the growth and success I have achieved, which is a testament to the nurturing environment. I am proud to be part of an organisation that values its employees and fosters a culture of continuous learning. I am excited about the future and the opportunities that lie ahead. My journey from military service to leadership/management has been a testament to the power of passion, dedication, and a supportive environment.”

Gavin Jones, Orbis Education & Care

Other sources of information and advice

Planning your career can seem scary but it doesn't have to be - there are many ways to get support.

Careers Wales

Careers Wales works with the Welsh Government to provide an independent and bilingual careers information, advice and guidance service in Wales. Their aim is for all young people to move smoothly and successfully into employment, and for adults to be inspired to take control of their careers.

Careers Wales can help you to plan your career, prepare to get a job, or find the right apprenticeship, course or training.

For more information visit <https://careerswales.gov.wales>

Working Wales

Working Wales is delivered by Careers Wales and is funded by the Welsh Government.

It is a free service available to anyone aged 16 and over and living in Wales to access expert advice and coaching to overcome any obstacles to getting a job and progressing their career.

Finding a job can be challenging, but Working Wales advisors can help with:

- Job searches
- CV and application support
- Job interview preparation
- Redundancy and unemployment support
- Support to apply for funding
- Advice and coaching on careers change
- Help to upskill and access training

For more information visit <https://workingwales.gov.wales>

We Care Wales

Are you looking for a new job, challenge, or change in career? Working in care could be perfect for you. Take a look at their dedicated jobs portal for roles in social care, early years and childcare.

For more information visit <https://wecare.wales>