



UP TO **£9k**
GOVERNMENT
FUNDING BAND

TYPICAL DURATION **18-24mth**
APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAMME

Level 3
A LEVEL EQUIVALENT

Dental Nurse

Apprenticeship Standard CACHE Solution Brief

Overview

Delivering front line support for the profession, the Dental Nurse provides chair-side support to dental professionals and delivers a high level of patient care. With a thorough understanding of dental anatomy and skills with commonly used dental materials and equipment, your Dental Nurse apprentice is vital to the operations and customer focus of the practice.

Your apprentice will undergo an 18–24 month apprenticeship training programme at Level 3, gaining a Level 3 Diploma in the Principles and Practice of Dental Nursing qualification. Throughout the apprenticeship CACHE will ensure a rigorous and professional assessment process to ensure that high standards of quality required by this sector are maintained.

Role profile

Complementing the role of other dental professionals, Dental Nurses may work in a variety of clinical environments. This apprenticeship standard reflects all aspects of a Dental Nurse's clinical responsibilities and duties, providing the apprentice with the relevant qualification to apply to the General Dental Council (GDC) for professional registration as a Dental Nurse. Dental Nurses are registered professionals and work within the standards and scope of practice defined by the GDC Scope of Practice document (September 2013).

Apprenticeship journey



Mock Assessments

Ensuring everyone has the most accurate expectations of end-point assessment (EPA) is essential. Providing mock assessment materials and guidance for all of our assessment methodologies, we empower providers and apprentices to structure learning towards the EPA format to assure the best chance of success.



Gateway

The decision to take an apprentice through Gateway is made between the employer, Independent Training Provider (ITP) and apprentice. The apprentice must have achieved all the required on-programme elements before they enter Gateway. We provide a Gateway guide to all of our providers to support them with this process. This ensures that the apprentice is only put forward when they are ready and comfortable to take the EPA.

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End-point assessments



Synoptic Project

75%

Completed in the final 3 months of the apprenticeship, the focus of the Synoptic Project is on the Dental Nurse apprentice proving their proficiency through the work they have done. This entails demonstrating competence in defined learning outcomes derived from competencies set out in the standard. The Synoptic Project will be chosen from a bank of themes developed from the standards by CACHE and we will work in conjunction with the apprentice, employer and ITP to select a theme that reflects the current needs of the business. The project will demonstrate the skills, knowledge and behaviours required for a Dental Nurse. Where there are any gaps in evidence from the Synoptic Project, this is reflected in the grading and will be explored through the Interview process. This assessment will cover the skills, knowledge, behaviours and competencies contained in the apprenticeship standard and will be mapped to the learning outcomes. The word count for the project will be between 2000 and 3000 words.



ASSESSMENT DELIVERY – digital first, on-demand delivery via an online platform.



GRADE WEIGHTING – graded as a Pass or a Distinction and carrying 75% of the final grading.



End-Point Assessment

Defined by the employer-led trailblazer action group, the assessment plan for Dental Nurse has 2 modes of assessment: a Synoptic Project and an Interview. CACHE will ensure the appropriate allocation of the Independent End-Point Assessor (IEPA) to see each apprentice through all modes of assessment and assure consistent quality of assessment.



Certification

Once the IEPA verifies the apprentice has successfully completed all EPAs, CACHE will activate certification. Working with the apprenticeship certificate issuing authority, we'll ensure the apprentice receives their certificate – a worthy recognition of their hard work and achievement and the currency that can help further their career.

3

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Interview

25%

An IEPA will use a structured series of questions to assess behaviours and soft skills, while allowing apprentices to demonstrate their style. Taking the form of a structured discussion between the apprentice and IEPA, the Interview is focused on the Synoptic Project results and performance during the apprenticeship, what the apprentice has done, the standard of their work, and how they approached their work. In this way the assessment covers a range of knowledge, skills and behaviours - including how the apprentice has demonstrated behaviours, approaches and responses to scenarios. It also provides the IEPA with an opportunity to clarify points from the Synoptic Project results.



ASSESSMENT DELIVERY – digital first, on-demand delivery via an online video conference platform.



GRADE WEIGHTING – graded as a Pass or a Distinction and carrying 25% of the final grading.

Grading

The apprentice must achieve at least a Pass in both elements of their EPA or their overall result will be 'fail'. To achieve a Distinction apprentices must achieve a Distinction in both assessments.

The CACHE grading criteria will outline the evidence required against each of the 22 Dental Nurse Apprenticeship Standard competencies.

Progression

Once the Level 3 Dental Nurse Apprenticeship is complete, the learning doesn't stop. A suggested apprenticeship pathway is illustrated below.



Delivery and pricing

CACHE is committed to offer value for money, high quality EPAs. Our 'digital first' approach provides flexible assessment methods for apprentices that limit the impact on the productivity of their working day. This enables us to provide the EPA for Dental Nurse at a highly competitive rate. For levy payers within their digital account limit, 100% of this price is covered by government funding. For non-levy payers, 90% is covered and just 10% requires an employer contribution.

100%

of the price is covered with government funding for levy payers within their limit.

10%

employer contribution for non-levy payers.

Why CACHE?

With over 70 years of assessment experience, we are a 'digital first' apprenticeship assessment organisation, making use of innovative new technology approaches to enhance the delivery and management of assessment. As the UK's leading sector specialist, our expertise and continued investment in high quality qualifications has enabled us to maintain and build our deserved reputation for excellence and leadership.

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Let's get to work.

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