

Routes into Social Care

The routes into social care are as diverse as the work you can do. Whether you're a school leaver, a volunteer or a graduate, your contribution and career progression in social work is recognised and valued at Birmingham City Council. The diagram below demonstrates some of the more common routes into social care and provides links to universities, colleges, voluntary organisations and the GSCC.

If you're currently unqualified and would like to gain experience, you can join us in a role such as Social Work Assistant, Referral & Advice Officer, Team Assistant or Care Worker – we regularly recruit for these roles, so please visit the search page of the council's careers website at www.birmingham.gov.uk/jobs. Alternatively you can gain experience within a voluntary organisation.

If you're a school leaver and would like to develop a career in Social Work there are a number of options to consider:-

You could gain experience as a Care Worker before going on to study for a SocialWork qualification, alternatively you could gain experience with a voluntary organisation.

If you decide to go on to study A-levels or attend a further education college to undertake a vocational course, you will then be able to apply for a Social Work degree course.

Mature Students, A-Level Students, FE Students, Social Work Students or Graduates

There are many Social Work Degree and Masters Degree providers nationally. Local to Birmingham the main institutions you may wish to consider include:

University of Birmingham <u>www.bham</u>.ac.uk

Birmingham City University <u>www.uce.ac.uk</u>

Coventry University <u>www.coventry.ac.uk</u>

Wolverhampton University <u>www.wlv.ac.uk</u>

Leicester University <u>www.le.ac.uk</u>

Keele University <u>www.keele.ac.uk</u>

New College in Bromsgrove www.ne-worcs.ac.uk

Each degree programme provider will have their own entry criteria for student entry so it is best to contact the providers of your choice to make sure you meet these requirements. It will then be necessary to apply to the relevant providers via the UCAS system.

Frequently Asked Questions

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ's) about the Social Work Profession are provided on the main www.birmingham.gov.uk/socialcarecareers page.

If you'd like to volunteer

There are a number of voluntary agencies across the region and nationally who actively recruit people like you to support their work. Working with a voluntary agency is an excellent way of gaining some experience and developing your skills and abilities. Training is often provided and commitment can be as little as a few hours per month.

Share: support disabled people to go out socially - 0121 303 0572

Home from Home: support old people living in the community - 0121 303 4003

Volunteering to work with Children: 0121 678 8867.

