

RHV

COUNCIL FOR THE EDUCATION AND
TRAINING OF HEALTH VISITORS

SYLLABUS

*Examination
for Health Visitors
in the
United Kingdom*

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SECTION III **Development of Social Policy**

This section is concerned with recent developments and current trends in social policy within the context of its diverse origins and of continuing changes in definitions of social need, in the use of community resources and in public expectations and attitudes.

Factors influencing the development of social policy in an industrialised urban society; the concept of the Welfare State.

An outline of the structure of Central and Local Government.

Current services available to all citizens for employment and income maintenance, environmental and personal health, education and leisure time activity, housing and environmental planning.

Concepts of community care, of family orientated services, of citizen participation; the role of the voluntary organisations and of the volunteer.

Problems of the organisation, financing, administration and staffing of the developing social services.

SECTION IV **Social Aspects of Health and Disease**

The content of this section provides the background for much of the work of the health visitor. It complements previous nursing studies, emphasising the social factors involved in health and disease and the relationship between needs and services.

The use of statistics and of the findings of social research in the identification of health needs and problems.

Health in relation to education, occupation and environment.

The impact of disease, disability and mental disorder on the individual, the family, and the community.

The implications of current health problems for the planning and development of preventive, remedial and supportive care.

An outline of the health services; the organisation in the light of changing needs and resources.

The importance of effective co-ordination and collaboration within the health and social services for the achievement of personal and community health.

Trends in world health; the work of relevant international agencies.

SECTION V **Principles and Practice of Health Visiting**

This section is particularly concerned with the development of health visiting as a professional activity, its function in contemporary society including community medical care and the knowledge and skills essential for its practice. It provides a theoretical foundation for the work of the health visitor and brings together subjects taught in other sections, including her health education activities.

The role of the health visitor in contemporary society.

The development of the health visiting service.

The scope of health visiting and its areas of practice.

The function of the health visitor in relation to different age groups and to members of the community with special needs.

Aims and objectives of the health visiting service.

Promotion of good health for individual and community.

Identification of need, primary and secondary prevention.

Care and guidance in cases of breakdown in physical and/or mental health.

Mobilisation of services to meet health and social needs.

SECTION I Development of the Individual

This section deals with the range of normal human development and significant deviations commonly met in health visiting practice. Its content forms the basis for the recognition and assessment of individual capacities at different ages and in different circumstances.

The influence throughout the life span of genetic and other pre-natal factors.

The physical, emotional, intellectual and social growth of the individual and the factors affecting development with particular reference to family relationships.

The characteristics of the mature personality.

The biological and psychological effects of ageing.

SECTION II The Individual In the Group

This section constitutes an introduction to the concepts of sociology. It involves an analysis of the structure of society and the forces that generate social change and influence individual behaviour.

Introduction to the language of sociology and to the concepts of social structure, social institutions and social control.

Formal and informal groups; roles, status and social interaction.

Social stratification and social mobility: their personal and cultural implications.

Socialization and education.

The nature and patterns of family and kinship groups and their functions in simple and complex societies.

Cultural diversity, social change, deviance and social conflict.