

Health visitor

A health visitor is a nurse or midwife, who works with social services and other organisations to safeguard and protect children. They are passionate about promoting healthy lifestyles and preventing illness. They work with families to give preschool age children the best possible start in life as well as helping homeless, addicts and travellers. Health visitors visit people in their homes to assist or advise the chronically or ill parents with very young children. Their role is to help families, especially families with babies, young children from birth to 5 years, older people, support homeless or in social services. When the baby is ten days old, the health visitor will come visit home, clinic or the general practitioner (GP).

To be a health visitor the qualifications needed is a degree in nursing and midwifery council (NMC) in a year or two full time as well as completed course in specialist community public health or health visiting (SCPHN OR HV). To have clearance from the disclosure and barring service (DBS) means to have no criminal offence.

The service and different needs that health visitors have to do or help with. Is breastfeeding support, infant feeding and weaning, parent advice, support with behaviour management, help family planning information guide, common illness management and supporting healthy eating.

To be a health visitor you would have to communicate well, listen to others, tact, persuasiveness, patience, ability to interpret body language, other non-verbal communication, ability to cope emotionally with distressing issues, organisational skills and ability to work on your own initiative. The seven principles could also apply to a health visitor. The seven principles are: selflessness, integrity, objectivity, accountability, Openness, honesty and leadership.

As a health visitor, they will recognize the risk factors, triggers of concern and signs of abuse and neglect in children. Giving advice to new parents feeding babies, hygiene, safety and sleeping.

The responsibilities are to help families, work with the community, promote health and wellbeing, prevent illness, healthy and safety and give advice.

By keeping the health visitor name consistent by all employers so the public are aware and understand the services provided. But the only thing which can impact health visitors to deliver their service is if the government campaign for allowing no aggression towards national health service (NHS) staff and there are 31 core values to guide the development of health visiting across the uk and provides case studies of successful initiative to support them. Also the other thing that could impact health visitor is if they feel vulnerable going alone into family homes of all sorts.

In conclusion, to be a health visitor all the things listed in this supporting paper are needed to be a good a health visitor. For example, to be committed to the job as well as committed to learning and keeping up the skills and knowledge up to date.

Referencing:

Nationalcareersservice.direct.gov.uk. (2018). *Health visitor | Job profiles | National Careers Service*. [online] Available at: <https://nationalcareersservice.direct.gov.uk/job-profiles/health-visitor> [Accessed 2 Dec. 2018].

Cnwl.nhs.uk. (2018). *Health visiting services - CNWL NHS*. [online] Available at: <https://www.cnwl.nhs.uk/services/community-health/children-family-services/health-visiting-services/> [Accessed 2 Dec. 2018].

Ford, S., Calkin, S., Ford, S., Mitchell, G. and Stephenson, J. (2011). *RCN sets out core values of health visiting*. [online] Nursing Times. Available at: <https://www.nursingtimes.net/roles/childrens-nurses/rcn-sets-out-core-values-of-health-visiting/5032302.article> [Accessed 12 Jul. 2011].

Crute VC, e. (2018). *An evaluation of a communication skills course for health visitor students*. - *PubMed - NCBI*. [online] Ncbi.nlm.nih.gov. Available at: <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/2768682> [Accessed 14 July. 1989].

editors, A. (2018). *Health visitor job profile* | *Prospects.ac.uk*. [online] Prospects.ac.uk. Available at: <https://www.prospects.ac.uk/job-profiles/health-visitor> [Accessed 1 Oct. 2017].

Welsh Assembly Government (2008) "Birth to five" Cardiff: Health challenge Wales.

Gov. UK (2018) Health Visitor [online] Available At (ucl)