Access to Nursing (SWAP) *(SCQF Level 6)*
Full-time

Where can I study?

Location	Duration	Course code
Aberdeen City Campus	1 Year	PTOAN

Introduction to the course

This course offers an excellent opportunity for those who would like to pursue a career in adult or mental health nursing. You may be considering a change of career or have worked in a support worker role and now wish to gain qualifications. Please note: this course is **not suitable** for those wanting to undertake midwifery or children's nursing.

[More information on SWAP at NESCol](#)

Entry requirements

You do not require any formal qualifications. If your last course of study was up to SCQF Level 5 you must have been out of full time education for three years. If your last course of study was at SCQF Level 6 or above you must have been out of full time education for five years.

What subjects will I be studying?

Areas covered on the course inculde: Human Biology; Values and Principles; Social Influences; Human Development and Behaviour; First Aid; Mental Health and Mental Illness; Health Promotion; Caring for People with Dementia; Physiology and Health and one other biological science Unit; Prevention of Infection; Working as a Team in a care Setting and Core Skills.

The SWAP programme is built from SQA Units and involves one year of full-time study. In addition to the academic units, SWAP students also study a 2 credit unit called Preparation for Higher Education. This includes core skills, study skills, reflective exercises on student progress and visits to universities. The Access course consists of 18 credits.

Assessment methods

Assessment takes the form of projects, portfolios, presentations, practical tasks and closed-book assessments.

Dress code

Students should dress appropriately for hands-on work, to allow participation in all activities. Students should present themselves at College in a professional manner appropriate for working in a care setting.

University progression

Successful completion of this course will allow you to apply for a wide range of degree programmes at a number of partner universities — visit the SWAP website for more information. Partner universities include:

- Robert Gordon University
- University of Dundee

Employment

Employment opportunities include Health Care Support Worker roles within a variety of care settings.

Useful contacts

Head of Faculty:	**Trish Swan** Head of Faculty, Care, Aberdeen City Campus Email: p.swan@nescol.ac.uk
Curriculum Manager:	**Marie Mcarthur** Curriculum Manager, Aberdeen City Campus Email: m.mcarthur@nescol.ac.uk

Academic Tutor

Once you come to College you will be allocated an academic tutor, who will be your initial point of contact. You will meet your tutor at least once a term during tutor hour — they are also the person to go to for the following:

- **Induction:** You will be invited to come in the week before your course starts for your induction. Your tutor will cover key aspects of life at the College to make sure you are well prepared for your NESCol experience.
- **Initial support:** Your tutor is the first point of contact for academic, personal and social support.
- **Attendance:** Your attendance and progress while you are at college, will be monitored by your tutor.
- **Additional support needs:** If you have indicated that you have additional learning or support needs, speak to your tutor who will refer you to the Student Advice and Support team for needs assessment as soon as practically possible.
- **Transitions:** your tutor will keep you informed of the many activities and events organised by the College to support you with career choices, employability, enterprise and articulation guidance and advice.

Student Advice Centre

The Student Advice Centre is your one stop shop for all information and support during your time at NESCol. Staff based within the centre provide impartial and confidential information and advice on a range of issues including:

- Applications and course advice
- Funding and money management
- Careers, employability and enterprise
- Transitions to college and university
- Key Skills and Study Skills support
- Additional Support for Learning
- Assistive technologies
- Mental health and wellbeing advice
- Care Experienced and Corporate Parenting
- Tier 4 and international admissions

Learning Resources

My NESCol
My NESCol is the College's student web portal that will provide you with on–demand access to all of the links, news and

services that you will use once you have enrolled. It's accessible via any computer, and as an Android or Apple app. It's easy to use, and you can even receive important alerts on your device!

Blackboard

Blackboard is the Virtual Learning Environment system used in the College, where you can find a host of useful information and access your courses online. It will be the main platform that your lecturers will use to make resources available to you including interactive materials, videos, assessments and feedback.

IT HelpZone

The IT HelpZones are run by students, for students, and there are helpdesks located in main social areas at the Aberdeen and Fraserburgh Campuses, and a dedicated helpline at our Altens Campus. You can drop in, email or telephone for assistance.

Library+

Each Library offers thousands of resources for study, including books, journals, e–books, e–journals and magazines — all relevant to the courses on offer at the campus in which they are situated. They also offer quiet, silent, individual, and group study facilities.

Bring Your Own Device (BYOD)

NESCol believes that your learning and teaching experience at College can be enhanced significantly by use of a mobile device, such as a tablet or a laptop. For this reason, many students are required to bring a device with them to College. This initiative is known as Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) and its aim is to provide learners with a more bespoke and student-centred learning experience.

Digital Skills Space

Located within each Library Plus facility you will find a dedicated Digital Skills Space, featuring Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) workspaces and dedicated desktop PC work areas. These spaces are also used to deliver core IT teaching, drop–in IT support and scheduled digital skills workshops. You can also use these spaces for flexible access to PCs during Library+ opening hours.

College Calendar

Have a look at our College Calendar for further information on key dates throughout the year.