



LEEDS
BECKETT
UNIVERSITY

Course information for applicants

This information applies to the course as it will be delivered to students starting the course in 2027/28.

Information provided here was confirmed on 23/09/2026

General information

Programme code

SWKBA

Target award

If you complete this course successfully you will be eligible for the award of:

BA (Hons) Social Work

Delivery mode

☒ On campus

☐ Distance learning

Where you will study

The majority of teaching will be at City campus but on occasion may be at Headingley campus.

Professional accreditation or recognition

Professional body

Social Work England

Summary of the accreditation or recognition

Successful completion of the course provides eligibility to apply for registration as a social worker in England.

Awarding body

Leeds Beckett University

Regulator

Office for Students

Level of qualification

Level 6 of the Framework for Higher Education Qualifications

Course duration

If you are made an offer of a place on the course, your offer letter will include the start date.

This course can be studied:
3 years full-time

Work placement

This course includes a compulsory placement module(s).

Summary

Students are required to complete assessed practice in levels 5 and 6 (years 2 and 3) of the course and undertake volunteering or paid employment in level 4 (year 1) in a relevant social care field.

Length

Level 4 social care experience – 100 hours

Level 5 placement – 70 days

Level 6 placement – 100 days

Location

Level 4 social care experience: student's choice

Level 5 placement: normally with local authorities or health and social care organisations that undertake statutory social work tasks.

Level 6 placement: within a statutory context.

Entry requirements

Admissions criteria are available on the online prospectus entry for this course.

If you have previous relevant qualifications or experience, you could be exempt from certain parts of your course. Recognition of prior learning (RPL) allows you to start your course at a point appropriate to the learning and skills that you may have developed in a professional, vocational or community setting.

Find out more here: <https://www.leedsbeckett.ac.uk/student-information/course-information/recognition-of-prior-learning>

If you have questions about entry requirements and admissions, contact AdmissionsEnquiries@leedsbeckett.ac.uk

Course fees

Course fees and a breakdown of any additional costs is included on the online prospectus entry for this course.

If you have questions about fees for this course, contact Fees@leedsbeckett.ac.uk

Timetable

You will receive your full timetable for the year during induction week.

What you will study

Course aims

We have designed a course that is generic in preparing newly qualified social workers to work with both children and adult social service users yet also allows students to develop specialisms in relation to an area of practice towards the end of their studies. We seek to develop professionals who can draw upon evidence informed research to use appropriately to monitor and assess both the effectiveness of their practice and the delivery of social work in an inter-professional context.

In developing the course the development team has been aware of its obligation to provide a unique knowledge and skill base in social work recognising the demands and requirements of the external bodies and professional requirements. Every aspect of the curriculum is informed by the Professional Capabilities Framework, which enables holistic assessment of students' progress from the admissions process through to qualifying level and encourages a lifelong learning approach and a commitment to continuing professional education. The course offers a programme of applied and blended learning which supports the development of a diverse range of learners. The course also aims to develop confident and resilient professionals who are able to take on the further challenges of the Assessed and Supported Year in Employment, the employer-led programme of support and assessment for new social workers.

Teaching and learning activities

Teaching and learning is normally face to face on campus. Lectures will normally be recorded although attendance is mandatory. One to one activities (e.g. tutorials or placement visits) may be online by arrangement. Teaching takes place in multi-purpose teaching spaces throughout the University, with additional specialist teaching and learning facilities for inter-personal skills development and experiential learning within the School. Teaching approaches include staff and/ or practitioner led lectures (including podcasts, lecture recordings, online seminars) and workshops for skills development. Thirty days for skills development are embedded throughout the curriculum. This incorporates a readiness for practice assessment and has been used creatively to prepare students for their first and second placements.

Social work practitioners and service users and carers work alongside academic tutors and students in developing students' practice skills against the Professional Capabilities Framework and knowledge and skills statements. Examples include activities to develop and assess communication and inter-personal skills and court and report writing skills.

To develop active learning, students are encouraged to participate in student-led seminars and presentations, as well as group work activities and action learning sets to promote shared learning, peer feedback and team working skills. Analytical skills and critical thinking are developed through reflective learning blogs and critical incident analyses as well as problem based learning activities. Problem based learning, case study analysis and experiential learning are used to integrate theory and practice and to develop critical application of theory. Students also participate in inter professional learning days.

Inter-personal skills are central to social work practice and these are taught through the use of dedicated communication skills facilities to rehearse and develop inter-personal skills using feedback approaches that involve social work professionals, service users and carers. The role plays and activities involve scripted roles and are recorded. Students are assured of confidentiality and respect and are asked to sign consent forms. Ground rules are agreed and established early in the course, which emphasise the importance of mutual respect and support. We may sometimes use videos as promotional materials, but students are required to provide consent for this.

Electronic portfolios are used within the practice curriculum to demonstrate evidence of skills development and reflective learning. Portfolios can be used most effectively in practice placements in levels 5 and 6 to evidence achievement of the professional practice standards to support learning within the practice context. Multi-media sources are used to engage and support student learning either in the classroom or in the Virtual Learning Environment. Students engage in a range of experiential learning opportunities throughout the levels as well as workshops to support court and tribunal skills.

Working in partnership with other professionals is also an important part of social work learning and at each level of the course students are required to engage with School-wide inter-professional learning with students from other health and social care courses.

Course structure

This information is correct for students progressing through the course within standard timescales. If you have to repeat study or take time out during your course, you may be taught alternative modules which meet the overall course learning outcomes.

Level 4

Compulsory modules

Module title	Credits	Semester/teaching period
Personal and Professional Development	40	Year-long
Social Work and the Life Course	20	Semester 1
Understanding Social Work	20	Semester 1
Understanding Law for Social Work	20	Semester 2
Working with Diversity	20	Semester 2
Total number of credits of compulsory modules:	120	

Level 5

Compulsory modules

Module title	Credits	Semester/teaching period
Contemporary Challenges for Social Work Practice	20	Semester 1
Social Work with Adults	20	Semester 1
Social Work with Children and Young People	20	Semester 1
Models of Intervention	20	Semester 2
Practice Placement 1	40	Semester 2
Total number of credits of compulsory modules:	120	

Level 6

Compulsory modules

Module title	Credits	Semester/teaching period
Social Work Law for Qualifying Practice	20	Semester 1
Social Work in the Global Context	40	Semester 1
Critical Thinking for Social Work	20	Semester 1 and 2
Practice Placement 2	40	Semester 1 and 2
Total number of credits of compulsory modules:	120	

Assessment and feedback

Level 4

Level 4 is assessed mostly by coursework, with some practical assessments.

Level 5

Level 5 is assessed mostly by coursework, with some practical assessments.

Level 6

Level 6 is assessed mostly by coursework, with some practical assessments.

Placement experiences are assessed.

Workload

You can expect to spend a total of 100 hours learning per 10 credits.

Typically, a student on this course can expect to divide their time like this:

Overall workload	Level 4	Level 5	Level 6
Teaching, learning and assessment	196 hours	169 hours	162 hours
Independent study	889 hours	696 hours	886 hours
Placement study	115 hours	525 hours	750 hours