CHILDHOOD, SOCIAL WORK AND SOCIAL CARE
Welcome

to the Department of Childhood, Social Work and Social Care at Chichester.

Our team are experienced academics who have worked within the childhood studies, social work and social care sectors and they are at the forefront of their discipline.

Through their experience, we are able to combine a professional qualification with an academic degree making sure you are ready for industry.

We have a long tradition of providing an encouraging student-centred method of teaching; our focus is you and your future success. It is our job to make sure your university experience is as enjoyable as possible and to support your development in your chosen pathway. By choosing us, we will help you achieve more than just a degree.
Our Research

In the ever-changing landscape of today’s world, it is our mission to ensure our education is based on research.

This is why our courses are focused on building knowledge of current practices and policies that will enable you to work effectively and confidently.

Our students are taught by a friendly and nurturing team of successful academics and researchers. Many of our team have published research in their field and are deemed eligible to act as supervisors of research degrees.

Dr Janet McCray
Professor of Social Care and Workforce Development

Janet leads the development of research in the Department of Childhood, Social Work and Social Care.

Janet has recently developed a research strategy to ensure that active research enhances the practice of the Department and the experience of its students.

Janet has work published in a number of highly recognised journals:
- The Journal of Integrated Care
- The Journal of Interprofessional Care
- British Journal of Cardiac Nursing
- International Journal of Nursing Studies
- British Journal of Nursing
- Journal of Workplace Learning
- Social Care Neurodisability

She has also written and contributed to a number of books.

Dr Nikki Fairchild
Senior Lecturer and Programme Lead for BA (Hons) Early Childhood Studies

Nikki takes a lead in teaching, mentoring and assessing students across a range of courses and supporting their academic journey. She is an active researcher and has recently published works including:
- Fairchild, Nikki (2016) Plogging into the Umbra: Creative experimentation (in)(on) the boundaries of knowledge production in ECEC research. Reconceptualizing Educational Research Methodology, 7 (1). pp. 16-30. ISSN 1892-042X

Chris Smethurst
Head of Department for Childhood, Social Work and Social Care

Kish Bhatti-Sinclair
Reader in Social Policy and Social Work and Deputy Head of Department

Chris and Kish are actively involved in research and writing projects in the areas of resilience, child sexual exploitation and diversity and difference. They have recently published their new jointly edited book - Diversity, Difference and Dilemmas: analysing concepts and developing skills by Open University press/McGraw Hill.
Childhood Studies

Childhood Studies explores the interesting aspects of a child’s development from birth.

You’ve heard the saying... ‘Children’s minds are like sponges’. At this time in their development, it is crucial to continually gain insight into the theories of their learning so practitioners can make a real impact on their development.

Our programmes will give you the grounding you need to take that first step. Working with our team of experienced Childhood academics and specialists, you’ll develop your skills in the holistic study of childhood from psychological, historical, cultural, sociological, social policy and philosophical viewpoints.

Two practice placements will contribute to your learning, confidence and experience. Developing skills in problem solving, assessment, critical analysis and independent thinking, you’ll graduate with the knowledge and skills that are highly sought after by childhood employers, and with the option to specialise further in a career pathway such as teaching or social work.

Where this will take you
A career in childhood studies will allow you to progress to a range of different pathways working with children including jobs within the health, education and social care sectors:

• Early years teacher
• Family support worker
• Learning mentor
• Primary school teacher
• Secondary school teacher
• Special educational needs teacher
• Social worker
• Teaching assistant
• Youth worker

With our practical and vocational focus, you will gain a wealth of knowledge and experience with us and we will help you stand out in the competitive jobs market.

Our courses
• Foundation Degree in Early Years
• BA (Hons) Early Childhood Studies
• BA (Hons) Early Childhood (Top-up)
Social Work

A career in social work is a chance to make a difference in a person’s life and the community they live in. Social workers give a voice to those who are struggling to be heard.

They tackle serious social matters and encourage the best solutions to support people through difficult times. It is a challenging, interesting and rewarding profession to enter.

Our social work programmes are designed to prepare you for the wide range of experiences and learning opportunities that you will encounter in industry. You will gain a combination of high quality and relevant experiences alongside up-to-date knowledge on areas such as ethics and values and input through a variety of theoretical and methodological approaches grounded in social justice and human rights.

Our programmes are led and taught by academic staff who have a range of professional backgrounds and relevant experience in the sector.

Where this will take you
As a social worker, you will have the qualifications and skills to work as a:
- Family support worker
- Day care social worker
- Education welfare officer
- Primary care graduate
- Mental health social worker
- Homelessness officer

Social workers actively listen, empathise and support individuals and families in an array of organisations including charities, the National Health Service (NHS), local authorities and other community based settings.

Our courses
- BA (Hons) Social Work
- MA Social Work

After successfully graduating, you will be able to register with the Health Care Professions Council as a qualified Social Worker. There are two full time routes to the social work qualification. The BA (Hons) Social Work is open to those who wish to experience an undergraduate course of study. The MA Social Work is open to those with a first Degree in a related subject.
Social Care

The growing social care industry is a crucial part of supporting and making an impact on the lives of others.

It is all about providing practical and personal care for those who need support. Our courses will prepare you for a rewarding career with adults with a disability, dementia, mental health condition or autism, or children, young people, families and communities.

By studying a degree focused on social care at Chichester, you will be equipped with the knowledge and skills that are needed in today’s workforce. We offer practical placements with local employers and key stakeholders to ensure the theoretical subjects covered within the degree align with the key priorities in the social care sector.

You will develop skills in critical thinking and analysis, problem solving, presentation skills and direct work with individuals and groups.

Where this will take you
With such a high demand for social care workers, there are many job opportunities and progression routes available for those looking to start their career in this sector. Some of the career paths include:
- Advice worker
- Care manager
- Adult guidance worker
- Housing support officer
- Occupational therapist
- Local authority worker
- Community support and outreach worker
- Children’s centre worker
- Youth worker

Our courses
- BA (Hons) Adult Social Care (Top Up)
- BA (Hons) Health and Social Work
- BA (Hons) Working with Children, Young People and Families

Continuing Professional Development
The MA Advanced Professional Practice is a programme that focuses on Continuing Professional Development. Students come from a variety of health and social care backgrounds, e.g. social work, education, nursing, occupational therapy and the voluntary sector. The programme is aimed at experienced practitioners and managers. We work with individual students and organisations to deliver a bespoke programme that meets their specific training needs.

For further information, please contact Hazel Rumsey at h.rumsey@chi.ac.uk

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What our Students Think

**Bryony Moore**
BA (Hons) Social Work

“I wanted to study a course that would look at Social Work itself, alongside considering perspectives such as Psychology and Sociology. This course delivers and leaves no stone unturned. Not only do you acquire extensive knowledge on theories, legislation, policy and law, you also gain real-life practical experience to ease you into a Social Work career.”

**Chloe Mandy**
Early Childhood Top-up

“This degree has helped me to see different perspectives and appreciate that there are so many different ways of working with children and families. The course is full of discussions and debates about our practice which has really opened my eyes to new ways of doing things.”

**Daniel Luckman**
Foundation Early Years

“The experience will develop your skills in the study of childhood from psychology, historical, cultural, sociological, social policy and philosophy viewpoints and introduces you to national and international perspectives.”

**Samantha Bridle**
BA (Hons) Early Childhood Studies

“I loved every second of the course; it is by far the best thing I have ever done. The support from the lecturers was amazing, they are credible, knowledgeable and 100% committed to ensuring that all of the students on the course succeed. I cannot speak more highly of the teaching team.”
Why Study at Chichester?

Your Community, Your University
We are a close-knit, friendly University. We value our community and what it means to us. This enables our students and staff to live and work in a campus environment with vibrant social learning spaces that are designed to encourage interaction between students and academics.

Chichester in Numbers
• University of the Year for Student Retention in 2017
  The Times and Sunday Times Good University Guide
• Ranked 13th in the UK for Satisfaction with Teaching
  The Guardian University League Tables 2019
• 10th in the UK for Overall Student Experience
  The Times Higher Student Experience Survey 2018
• We achieved 87% overall student satisfaction, 3% above the national average
  National Student Survey 2017
• TEF Silver (Teaching Excellence Framework)

Leading Growth
We have a partnership approach where innovative research and professional practice of our staff is combined with the enthusiasm of our students to create a stimulating and challenging learning experience. The University forefronts improvements in enterprise, professional development and leadership partnerships between the University and private, public and third party sector organisations.

Teaching Excellence Framework
Based on the evidence available, the TEF Panel judged that the University of Chichester delivers high quality teaching, learning and outcomes for students. It consistently exceeds rigorous national quality requirements for UK higher education.
Discover the city of Chichester

Chichester, nestled at the bottom of the South Downs, is surrounded by beautiful countryside, beaches, small villages and historic attractions.

Chichester Cathedral & City Wall Walk
Chichester is surrounded by a 2000 year old roman city wall designed and built to defend the town, control the trade and demonstrate status. The mile and half route is built around the heart of the city where you can discover the breath taking Chichester Cathedral. For nearly 1000 years, the Cathedral is an impressive architectural monument for all visitors to see. Only a few steps away, guests can enjoy the historic Cathedral Close and the beautiful Bishop’s Palace Gardens.

Chichester Festival Theatre
Time for a show? Book a ticket to see one of the exceptionally high standard plays at the Festival Theatre, where famous productions originate before going on to the West End. Half A Sixpence, Guys and Dolls and Sweeney Todd have all graced the stage at this local theatre.

Shopping, Restaurants and Pubs
Located in the historic centre, a vast array of shops, bars and restaurants line the cobbled streets. From art and books to fashion and jewellery to vintage shops and antiques, there are plenty of places to peruse in the city. Chichester boasts a diverse selection of cafes, farm shops, pubs, bars and restaurants with influences from around the world.
Goodwood House, Aerodrome and Racecourse
Visiting Chichester would not be the same, unless you experience a day at Goodwood. Famous all over the world for its sporting heritage, it is home to some of the biggest events in the South including The Revival, Festival of Speed, The Three Friday Nights and Glorious Goodwood.

West Wittering’s Beach
Spend the day at the large sandy beach of West Wittering. This unspoilt location is a popular destination with all generations and especially those who are keen water sport enthusiasts. For others who don’t have the balance, the beach and surrounding areas are full of wildlife, birds and unique beauty.

Brighton, London and Portsmouth
Chichester is located a commutable distance away from other major cities including Brighton to the East, Portsmouth to the West and London an hour and a half to the North. You will never be stuck for something to do.