
NUMERACY

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Numeracy is about using numbers to, for example, add, subtract, divide, multiply. Knowing that $2+2=4$ is a basic numeracy skill.

Some people are better at working with numbers than other people. Working in health and social care does not mean you have to be a maths genius, but, you do need to know how to use numbers correctly and things such as fractions, decimals, percentages.

In health and social care your numeracy is important because it affects vulnerable people who you are caring for. Numbers are used in, for example:

- charts
- dates
- measuring
- money
- payslips
- quantities
- telephone numbers
- temperatures
- time keeping

Don't worry if you are not good with numbers. During your induction your manager will identify any gaps between what you can do and what you need to be able to do. They will be able to give you advice on where and how to find help and you should make use of that advice.

Two helpful websites are:

www.nationalnumeracy.org.uk

www.bbc.co.uk/skillswise/maths