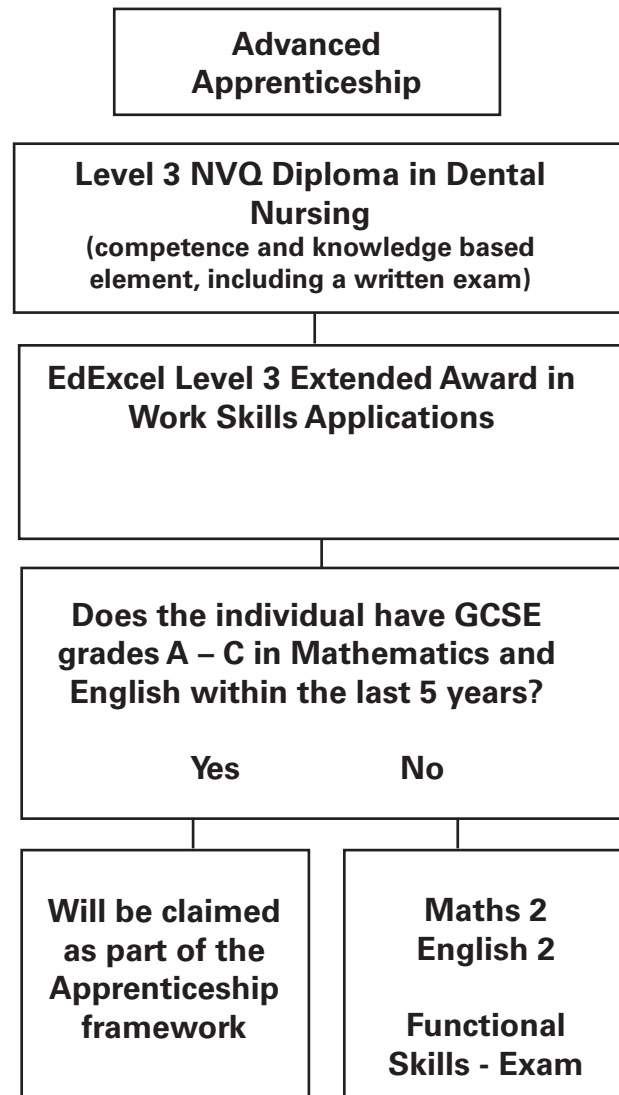


## Dental Nursing

(As guidance for completion this level 3 framework can take up to a minimum of 12 months and a maximum of 18 months depending on experience and existing qualifications)



### Additional Employer Requirements

Additional elements can be added to the framework at the request of the employer, at additional cost. These can be additional units or qualifications which the employer feels would offer enhancement and meet business needs.

## Dental Nursing Apprenticeship

### What is an Apprenticeship?

An Apprenticeship is a mix of real work and learning. Apprentices earn a wage and get experience whilst working towards a number of qualifications. An Apprenticeship follows a Level 2 programme and can lead onto an Advanced Apprenticeship which is a Level 3 programme.

There are a number of elements to each Apprenticeship and this is called the framework. Each Apprenticeship framework has three main strands:

- competence based element
- technical element
- skills element.

The three strands are sometimes accompanied by additional qualifications to give the most relevant skills and knowledge required for the job.

### Duration

12 to 18 months depending on previous experience and qualifications.

### Location

Practical elements are delivered and assessed in the workplace with part-time attendance at College to receive training in knowledge elements and functional skills.

### Overview

Dental Nurses are a high priority within the Dental Care Professionals (DCP) group. This is a growth occupation area due to the increased numbers of dentists and dental therapists.

The primary role of the dental nurse is to support the dentist and other members of the dental team in patient care. In addition to the support role a dental nurse's range of duties can include pre- and post-operative decontamination of dental instruments and the surgery environment, and non-clinical duties such as patient education and participation in clinical and practice management issues.

Dental nurses, after appropriate training can now also take and process x-rays.