



## Purpose Statement

<b>Name of regulated qualification</b>	
<b>QN: 603/1908/2</b>	<b>Title: Pearson BTEC Level 2 Technical Diploma in Horticulture (360 GLH)</b>

### What is horticulture?

There are currently more than 235,500 people working in the horticulture industry, spread throughout the UK, and it is expected that between now and 2020 the industry will need around 120,000 new entrants. Horticulture is a diverse industry, offering a wide range of progression and job opportunities, which can vary from greenkeeper to gardener, landscaper and sports turf management. Horticulture includes the production of plants, fruits and vegetables, which are sold either to be eaten as food or as ornamental plants for gardening.

### Who is this qualification for?

This qualification is for you if you want to start a career in horticulture. It is designed for post-16 students and can be taken as part of a wider study programme. It is an ideal qualification if you are intending to progress directly to employment within horticulture, or to a horticulture apprenticeship.

### What does the qualification cover?

This qualification has been developed in consultation with employers in the horticulture sector to ensure that you learn the skills and behaviours that will give you the best opportunity to be successful when applying for work.

There are six mandatory units that relate directly to the skills, knowledge and behaviours expected by employers in the horticulture sector. The areas you will cover include:

- health and safety
- an introduction to plant and soil science
- a horticulture work placement
- establishing and maintaining plants and seeds
- land-based machine operations
- estate maintenance.

You will be able to add two optional units to the mandatory content, covering areas such as:

- maintaining sports and amenity turfs

- maintaining soft landscapes
- construction and maintenance of hard landscapes
- nursery stock production
- propagation techniques.

You will also enhance your broader skills in literacy and numeracy, which will be invaluable in supporting progression in other areas. In addition, you will develop transferable technical and practical skills in communication (working with colleagues, customers and clients), and research and project work (providing you with an opportunity to demonstrate your reflective practice by suggesting alternative approaches to a problem).

### **What could this qualification lead to?**

When studied as part of a full study programme, typically alongside maths or English, this qualification will give you an advantage when applying for a job in horticulture. The types of role you will be ready for are:

- plant area assistant
- assistant groundsperson
- horticultural worker
- trainee gardener
- trainee landscape operative
- trainee ground maintenance operative
- trainee groundsperson
- trainee groundskeeper.

This qualification will also give you a sound basis to progress further within the horticulture sector to a level 3 qualification, such as the Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Diploma in Horticulture.

### **Who supports this qualification?**

This qualification is supported by the following professional bodies:

- The Chartered Institute of Horticulture
- The Institute of Groundmanship.

This qualification is supported by the following employer:

- Oak View Landscapes.

### **Further information**

Further information about the qualification can also be accessed at:

<http://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/btec-technicals/horticulture.html>