

Statement of Purpose

500/9929/2 - Pearson BTEC Level 2 Diploma in Horse Care (QCF)

Who is the qualification for?

This qualification is a Technical Certificate at level 2 designed for post-16 students working at that level. It has 360 guided learning hours.

It is designed for students who have chosen to focus their learning and career development within the equine industry and who are looking for an engaging and stimulating qualification which supports transition directly into employment and/or into further study. It includes compulsory work experience and covers a range of specialisms within the world of equine management.

What does this qualification cover?

The qualification consists of a core of four mandatory units which makes up 50% of the qualification and a choice (from 13) of optional units which make up the remainder. The mandatory units provide the underpinning knowledge and practical skills to support students' work with horses. Unit 1 – '*Undertake Work Related Experience in the Land-based Industries*' provides students with the opportunity to know and understand the industry from a practical perspective, supported by Unit 2 – '*Carry Out and Understand the Principles of Feeding and Watering Horses*', Unit 3 – '*Undertake Routine Stable Duties*' and Unit 4 – '*Undertake Horse Handling*' which provide essential practical skills and underpinning theoretical knowledge.

The optional units cover key areas relevant to those working within any of the three sub-sectors of the equine industry: the racing industry; the non-thoroughbred industry; and horse associated activities. They enable students to focus on a specialism within the industry and cover a wide range of the principal disciplines that are associated with key areas for employment within the sector, including, for example, land-based business, stud practice, horse biology, riding, grooming, lungeing, health, welfare, horse behaviour and estate maintenance.

This qualification enables students to acquire a valuable range of practical, work related skills in the equine sector, requiring them to develop and apply their knowledge in specific industry-related contexts. Examples include practical yard and feed duties, working as part of a team, feed ration formulation, horse handling, use of restraint techniques, the fitting of tack/equipment, use of lungeing equipment, riding over small fences and maintaining estate boundaries. Students will also enhance their broader skills in literacy and numeracy, which will be invaluable in support of progression to employment and/or to further level 3 studies.

In addition, students will develop transferable technical and practical skills in communication (working with colleagues, customers and clients), and research and project work (providing an opportunity to demonstrate reflective practice by suggesting alternative approaches to a problem).

What could this qualification lead to?

This qualification provides a sound basis for students to progress further in the industry - to a level 3 Technical Level qualification in horse management, to an apprenticeship, or direct entry to employment. Ambitious students are well prepared for a wide spectrum of occupations within the industry, including competition groom, exercise rider, stud hand, foaling attendant, transporter, assistant yard supervisor, equestrian sales or race track staff.

This qualification is part of a larger suite of BTEC Horse Care qualifications

Pearson BTEC Level 2 First Diploma in Horse Care has 360 guided learning hours (GLH).

The Pearson BTEC Level 2 First Diploma in Horse Care is designed for post-16 students and provides a specialist work-related focus on the horse care sector. This qualification prepares students for employment in the horse care sector. It includes a mandatory work-related experience unit not included within the smaller sizes.

Pearson also offers a BTEC Level 2 First Extended Certificate in Horse Care which has 180 GLH. This forms a broad introduction to the horse care sector and may form part of the student's study programme. For example, it could be taken alongside subjects such as English, mathematics, science, business, etc.

(Pearson also offers a BTEC First Certificate in Horse Care, which has 90 GLH and is predominantly designed for pre-16 students.)

All sizes of the qualification provide progression to Level 3 study programmes, apprenticeships and entry into a specialist area of employment.

Who supports this qualification?

This qualification is supported by the British Equestrian Federation.

The support letter from this organisation is available at the following link:
<http://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/btec-firsts/horse-care-2010-qcf.html>.

Further information

Further information on the qualification can also be accessed at
<http://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/btec-firsts/horse-care-2010-qcf.html>.