

**Purpose Statement**

Name of regulated qualification	
<b>QAN: 601/7524/2</b>	<b>Title: BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Animal Management (360 GLH)</b>

**Overview*****The animal management sector***

The animal management sector is rapidly developing from a low-grade, largely manual sector into a service industry meeting the broad demands of the animal-owning and interested public. Animal care is worth £1 billion to the UK economy. This sector has 20,000 businesses, 78,000 employees and many volunteers. There are many different career paths and opportunities for those wishing to work in animal management which range from working with small to large, domesticated and exotic animals in subsector areas such as animal welfare, business, science and wildlife conservation.

***Who is this qualification for?***

This qualification offers an engaging programme to support students who aspire to a career in an animal-related industry. It is intended as a Tech Level qualification, equivalent in size to 1 A level and, as such, is designed to meet the Tech Bacc measure, when studied alongside level 3 mathematics and the Extended Project Qualification (EPQ). This size of qualification allows students to study related and complementary qualifications without duplication of content. It provides good preparation for someone considering an apprenticeship in animal management. When taken alongside further level 3 qualifications, it also supports access to a range of higher education courses in the animal management sector.

No prior study of the sector is needed, but students should normally have a range of achievement at level 2, in GCSEs or equivalent qualifications.

***What does the qualification cover?***

The content of this qualification has been developed in consultation with employers and professional bodies to ensure that the content is appropriate for those working in the sector. In addition, HE representatives have been involved in order to ensure it supports progression towards higher study.

The mandatory units are as follows:

- Unit 3: Animal Welfare and Ethics
- Unit 4: Practical Animal Husbandry
- Unit 5: Animal Behaviour
- Unit 6: Animal Health and Disease
- Unit 7: Work Experience in the Animal Sector

All students taking this qualification will be required to engage with sector employers as part of their course, including 75 hours work experience with an employer in the sector, where opportunities will be given to develop practical skills in preparation for employment.

**What could this qualification lead to?****Will the qualification lead to employment, if so, in which job role and at which level?**

This qualification is designed primarily to support progression to employment. Students completing this size qualification could access entry roles in areas such as:

- kennel or cattery assistant
- animal care assistant, in an animal business, charity or wildlife trust
- retail assistant, in a pet or animal-related retail establishment
- assistant to an animal trainer, e.g. trainer of assistance dogs for the disabled
- animal technician, in an animal centre.

Students who have taken additional level 3 qualifications could progress to a wider range of roles. For example, if taken alongside:

- a business or retail qualification, it could lead to a role such as an animal centre administration assistant
- a complementary dog-grooming qualification, it will support entry to dog-grooming assistant and trainee roles
- a Pearson BTEC Level 3 Extended Certificate in Business, it will support entry to administrative, retail and registrar roles.

**Will the qualification support progression to further learning, if so, what to?**

Because the Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Animal Management is generally taken alongside other level 3 qualifications, as part of a two-year programme of learning, students will be able to choose from a range of specialist degree programmes to progress to.

The qualification is intended to carry UCAS points and is recognised by HE providers as contributing to meeting admission requirements to many relevant courses. For example, if taken alongside A levels in Biology and Chemistry, or a BTEC Diploma in the relevant field of study, such as Applied Science, it could lead to:

- BSc (Hons) in Animal Management and Welfare
- BSc (Hons) in Applied Animal Studies
- BSc (Hons) in Zoology
- BSc (Hons) in Animal Science
- BSc (Hons) Animal Science and Health.

The size of this qualification allows a wide range of qualifications to be taken alongside, where knowledge and skills related to animal management will support particular progression routes. For example, if taken alongside a Pearson BTEC Level 3 Diploma in Creative Media Production, it could lead to a BA (Hons) in Film and Television Production for those interested in making wildlife films.

Students should always check the entry requirements for degree programmes at specific HE providers.

**If there are larger and/or smaller versions of this qualification, or it is available at different skills levels, why should the student choose this one?**

The **Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Animal Management** is the smallest qualification in the suite of BTEC Nationals in Animal Management and is equivalent in size to 1 A level. It is for students interested in learning about the animal management sector, with supplementing fields of study.

The suite also includes the following qualifications.

The **Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Foundation Diploma in Animal Management** is equivalent in size to 1.5 A levels and is for students looking for a one-year course, perhaps after taking further level 2 qualifications, and who are intending to gain employment directly, or to progress onto an apprenticeship in animal management.

The **Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Diploma in Animal Management** is equivalent in size to 2 A levels and is principally for students wanting to progress directly into work as an animal management assistant or supervisor. Its size means there is time in a study programme to take an additional level 3 qualification to support progression to more specialist employment.

The **Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Pearson National Extended Diploma in Animal Management with Science** is equivalent in size to 3 A levels and has additional mandatory and optional science content. It is for students who know they want to work within the animal management sector, either directly or following a sector-related degree.

For more detail of the other qualifications listed here, and the different progression opportunities they particularly support, please refer to their statements of purpose.

**This qualification is supported by the following organisations****Professional and trade bodies**

British Veterinary Nursing Association (BVNA)  
The Pet Industry Federation  
Royal Association of British Dairy Farmers (RABDF)  
British Institute of Professional Dog Trainers (BIPDT)

**Employers**

RSPCA  
British Wildlife Centre  
Amazing Animals  
Drusillas Park  
Mini Meadows Farm  
Norfolk Dog Training Centre  
The Llama Park  
The Muddy Paw  
Vauxhall City Farm  
Whirlow Hall Farm Trust

**Higher Education**

Kingston University  
University of the West of England  
Harper Adams University  
Myerscough College