

Statement of Purpose

500/9433/6 – Pearson BTEC Level 3 Certificate in Horse Management (QCF)

The Horse industry/sector is fragmented but a major employer of labour, through its identity and significance is sometimes overlooked. It is divided into three key parts; the racing industry, the non-thoroughbred industry and horse associated activities. There are more than 19,000 horse businesses and 41,200 employees. Equine businesses include riding schools, livery yards, competition yards, trekking centres, breeders, trainers, welfare charities and freelance services. Since this industry is so diverse, ambitious learners can now consider a broad list of possible horse careers. These include, but are not exclusive to:

- saddler
- competition rider
- yard supervisors
- lecturers
- stud/yard manager
- trainer
- horse dealer
- sales
- race track staff
- transporters.

The Pearson BTEC Level 3 Certificate (180 GLH) in Horse Management is part of a larger suite of Horse Management qualifications, in a range of sizes, which share the common purpose of helping people to become occupationally ready to take up employment in the Land-based sector at the appropriate level. This can follow either directly after achieving the qualification, or via the stepping stone of Higher Education (HE) in university or college. By studying a BTEC National, learners develop knowledge, understanding and skills required by the sector, including essential employability skills, and apply them in real work contexts. Learners can operate at a standard that can reasonably be expected of an 18 year old in full-time education.

Within this suite, the Pearson BTEC Level 3 Certificate in Horse Management (180 GLH) is a vocational qualification, equivalent in size to an AS level, which is designed to be taken alongside one or more substantial qualifications within a 16–19 study programme. The qualification provides learners with an element of sector specialism as part of their wider programme by developing a primary knowledge in the sector. The units cover specialist content, such as animal health, stable yard management and horse fitness, that is regarded as most important by employers. It is therefore particularly appropriate for those with an interest in progressing to a career in a Horse Management-related field, who want to pursue this via a principally academic route and take it alongside other qualifications, such as GCE Biology, GCE Chemistry or GCE Applied Business. It is also appropriate for those aged 16 who are ready to start an element of level 3 vocational study while completing aspects of their level 2 programme.

The qualification was designed in collaboration with industry, so has the specific support of the Sector Skills Council (SSC) for the sector, LANTRA. The Pearson BTEC Level 3 Certificate in Horse Management supports entry to a variety of HE courses in this sector and beyond, when taken in conjunction with other qualifications. This is confirmed by the specific support of a range of universities. In addition, the qualification carries UCAS points – see details published on the Pearson website here:

<http://www.edexcel.com/i-am-a/student/results/Pages/BTEC-equivalence.aspx>