

## Purpose Statement

<b>Name of regulated qualification</b>	
<b>QAN: 601/9062/0</b>	<b>Title: Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Diploma in Equine Management (Equitation) (720 GLH)</b>

<b>Overview</b>
<p><b>The equine management sector</b></p> <p>The equine sector is an exciting and well-respected industry, which is rapidly expanding in the UK, contributing £7 billion a year to the economy. This sector has more than 19,000 businesses, 41,200 employees and many volunteers. The equine industry includes the welfare, husbandry, supervision and riding of horses, which means there are opportunities for working ranging from livery operations to thoroughbred racehorse training.</p> <p><b>Who is this qualification for?</b></p> <p>The <b>Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Diploma in Equine Management (Equitation)</b> is intended as a Tech Level qualification, equivalent in size to 2 A levels, and is designed to meet the Tech Bacc measure, when studied alongside level 3 mathematics and the Extended Project Qualification (EPQ). It is aimed at learners intending to progress directly into employment in this aspect of equine management and who want to pursue a career based on equitation. It will also support those wishing to progress to a specialist equine management degree in higher education.</p> <p>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.</p> <p><b>What does the qualification cover?</b></p> <p>The content of this qualification has been developed in consultation with employers and professional bodies to ensure that the content is appropriate for those interested in working in the sector. In addition, higher education representatives have been involved to ensure that it fully supports entry to the relevant range of specialist degrees.</p>

There are eight mandatory units, which cover the following aspects of equitation management:

- schooling horses on the flat
- horse fitness
- equine structure, form and function
- equine diet and nutrition
- work experience in the equine sector
- horse tack, equipment and rugs
- preparation and presentation for competition disciplines
- equine health and husbandry.

Students will be able to add two optional units to the mandatory content. These optional units have been designed to support progression to a range of employment opportunities in the equine management equitation sector and, when taken alongside other level 3 qualifications, to a range of higher education courses. The objective of this qualification is to focus on roles for which a competent riding standard is desired.

Optional units introduce students to a sector specialist area of their choice, including working in particular environments, and link with relevant occupational areas. The optional units cover areas such as:

- equine behaviour
- theory of training horses,
- riding horses in the open
- ground poles and gridwork for horses
- showjumping and cross-country courses
- estates and grassland management
- working horses from the ground
- introduction to equestrian coaching
- managing equine injuries and rehabilitation.

All students taking this qualification will be required to engage with sector employers as part of their course, including 225 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 will prepare students to progress directly into employment. This is achieved through the provision of mandatory units that address cross-sector issues and optional units, arranged in subject groupings that enable learners to meet local employment needs.

This qualification is suitable for direct employment in roles such as:

- trainee instructor
- exercise rider
- rider leader.

If taken alongside additional qualifications such as a Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Subsidiary Diploma in Agriculture, it may support entry to livestock assistant roles.

Students who have taken additional level 3 qualifications could increase professional industry skills and competencies, and have increased responsibilities in the above job roles. Additional qualifications include:

- British Horse Society Stage 1
- British Horse Society Stage 2
- British Horse Society Stage 3
- British Horse Society Stage 4.

For those students seeking direct employment, other qualifications that complement this qualification are:

- UK Coaching Certificate
- EQL Level 2 Diploma for the Ride Leader
- EQL Level 3 Diploma for the Ride Leader
- BHS Riding and Road Safety Test
- BHS Preliminary Teaching Test
- BHS Intermediate Teaching Test.

This qualification also supports progression for those seeking further learning as part of a level 4 apprenticeship in the field of equine welfare and science.

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

There are many roles in this sector where recruitment is at graduate level. The qualification carries UCAS points and is recognised by higher education providers as contributing to admission requirements for many relevant courses. Normally an additional level 3 qualification will be needed, and when taken alongside a science qualification, this qualification could lead to degree courses, such as:

- BSc (Hons) Equine Sports Coaching
- BSc (Hons) Equine Sports Science
- BSc (Hons) Equine Business Management
- BSc (Hons) Equine Sports Therapy
- BSc (Hons) Equine Science and Management
- BSc (Hons) Equine Training and Management
- BSc (Hons) Equine Behaviour.

When taken alongside a business qualification, it could lead to a degree course such as BA (Hons) in Business Management, with the potential to lead to the role of manager in an equine centre.

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

## Why do this size of qualification

### 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 Diploma in Equine Management (Equitation)** is equivalent in size to 2 A levels and is likely to be chosen over the National Extended Diploma in Equine Management by those students wanting to progress directly into work as an equine instructor or exercise rider. Its size and specialist mandatory and optional units mean there is time in a study programme to take an additional level 3 qualification, such as one of those above, to support progression to more specialist employment.

The suite also includes the following qualifications.

The **Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Equine Management**, which is the smallest qualification in the suite and is equivalent in size to one A level. It is for students wishing to work in the equine management sector, but in roles which would be best supported with supplementing fields of study.

The **Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Foundation Diploma in Equine Management**, which 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 to an apprenticeship in equine management.

The **Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Diploma in Equine Management (Yard Management)**, which is equivalent in size to 2 A levels and is principally for students wanting to progress directly into work as an equine 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 Equine Management**, which is equivalent in size to 3 A levels and introduces a greater amount of science content. It is for students who know they want to work within the equine 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 body

British Horse Society

### Employers

Andrew Monnington and Partners, Mapsons Farm

Beatrice Boyle, McTimoney Animal Practitioner

Blue Cross

Horse Trust

Kontakt Dressage

**Higher Education**

Myerscough College

Royal Agricultural University

University of Chester

University of the West of England