

Quick Guide to the **BTEC Tech Award in Animal Care (2022)**



BRAND NEW FOR 2022

First teaching: September 2022

Course level: Level 1/ Level 2

Course size: Total Qualification Time: 151 hours/ Total Guided Learning Hours: 120

QN: 603/7057/9

Content Overview

Component 1: Animal Handling

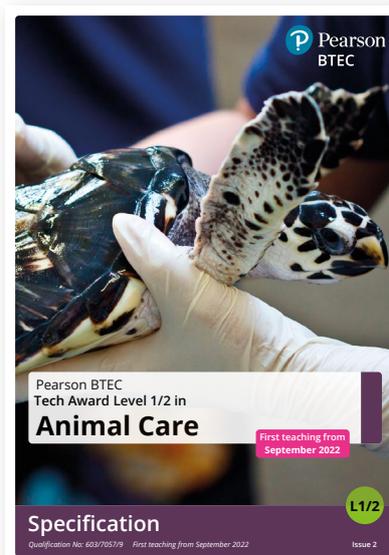
Learners develop their animal handling skills and gain an understanding of the principles of animal behaviour, enabling them to handle and restrain animals safely.

Component 2: Animal Housing and Accommodation

Learners develop their understanding of the accommodation and housing requirements of animals by carrying out the preparation, checking and cleaning out of animal accommodation.

Component 3: Animal Health and Welfare

Learners develop their understanding of how looking after animals' wellbeing helps maintain their strength and vigour, as well as exploring how animals are used in society and how they are protected by legislation.



Why choose a BTEC Tech Award in Animal Care?

Developed from the popular BTEC First Award in Animal Care, the Tech Award is for learners interested in taking a hands-on course alongside their GCSEs that will offer them an insight into what it is like to work in the sector, giving them an introduction that keeps all of their options open and allows them to make an informed decision about their future learning and career.

This qualification prepares learners to work in animal care in a range of commercial and non-commercial contexts and across a wide range of different types of animal (smaller/companion animals, reptiles, birds, invertebrates and if possible, larger/livestock animals), considering a broad range of factors involved in the care of animals including: appropriate handling and restraint according to size, age, temperament, behaviour, reason for handling and hazards; the five welfare needs; accommodation design, safety and hygiene; signs of health, stress and illness, causes and transmission – and prevention – of disease, and animal legislation.

Throughout the Tech Award learners will learn theory while also developing sector-specific practical skills, using equipment and techniques appropriate to the animal and environment – cleaning and bedding materials, PPE etc – within realistic vocational contexts.

In addition, they'll develop key transferable employability and personal skills such as self-management, communication, research, project management and reflective practice.

This Tech Award complements the learning in GCSE programmes such as GCSE Biology, GCSE Business and GCSE Mathematics, offering opportunities to apply knowledge, skills and techniques in practical ways. Upon successful completion of the award, learners have a number of possible progression routes open to them, including A Levels, other Level 2 vocational qualifications and related competence-based qualifications for the land-based sector, or a BTEC National in Animal Management.

Assessment Overview

Component	GLH	Qualification Weighting	Marks available	Type of assessment	Length of Assessment	Availability
Component 1: Animal Handling	36	30%	60	Internal assessment (PSA*) with 3 tasks. Externally moderated	2 hours of monitored preparation and 6 hours of supervised sessions	Twice a year: June release for December/January moderation September release for May/June moderation
Component 2: Animal Housing and Accommodation	36	30%	60	Internal assessment (PSA*) with 4 tasks. Externally moderated	6 hours of supervised sessions	Twice a year: June release for December/January moderation September release for May/June moderation
Component 3: Animal Health and Welfare	48	40%	60	External synoptic exam. Externally marked.	2 hours	Twice a year in January and May (from 2024)

* Pearson Set Assignments (PSAs) are set by Pearson, marked by the centre, and moderated by Pearson.

The components are interrelated and best seen as part of an integrated whole rather than as distinct study areas.

Complimentary resources and support

- Delivery Guide
- Transition Guide mapping from previous qualifications
- Sample assessment materials
- ExamWizard
- ResultsPlus
- Marking Training and Marking Standardisation Events
- Getting Started Training Events
- Access to Pearson subject specialist

Choosing a **BTEC Tech Award**

Tech Awards are Level 1/Level 2 courses that are of the **same size and rigour as GCSEs**, **widening learners' options at Key Stage 4**, while keeping all their options open for progression into post-16 education and training. We have developed all our Tech Awards **in consultation with subject specialists and secondary school and FE representatives**, to ensure that they are **engaging** and **fully up to date** with current sector skills, behaviours and knowledge.

With a Tech Award your learners will:

- Get a taste of what a sector is like.
- Gain transferable skills and confidence that will help them in the world today and prepare them for their futures.
- Receive an introduction to vocational study.
- Have opportunities to apply learning from their GCSE subjects to every day and work contexts.
- Build applied knowledge and skills that show an aptitude for further learning, both in the sector and more widely.

BTEC Tech Awards come from Pearson, the world's leading learning company. Our mission is to help everyone achieve their potential through learning. We do that by providing high quality content and learning experiences, as well as assessments and qualifications that help people build their skills and grow with the world around them.

Embedding learning through application

Our Tech Award qualifications are designed to help learners:

- **Explore** what it's like to work in the sector and gain the underpinning knowledge and skills required to work in it.
- **Develop** key knowledge, skills and behaviours, and learn about essential tools, techniques, and equipment.
- **Apply** their learning to real-life contexts and vocational scenarios in both learning and assessment.

Designed to **make life easier**

Through the design of all of our qualifications we've sought to ensure that the courses are as easy as possible for teachers to deliver and administer, and that they give learners as much opportunity as possible to realistically demonstrate their capability and achieve overall success.

- ✓ We offer the widest range of Tech Awards, covering 13 unique subject areas, all following the same consistent approach – enabling your school to offer multiple Tech Awards without multiplying complexity.
- ✓ All components are mandatory, with optionality built in within the content where relevant to the sector, streamlining assessment.
- ✓ There is a consistent mark scheme structure for each internally assessed component making it easier to apply and standardise.
- ✓ Assessment is compensatory within components and across the qualification - anywhere learners gain marks, these are added to the total towards a grade. This means grades for each component are no longer restricted to the lowest grade achieved within the component.
- ✓ There are no minimum grade requirements in any component, so an Unclassified result in any of the components will not prevent a learner from achieving the qualification. This gives your learners more opportunities to achieve and better captures their true ability.
- ✓ The moderation process for the new Pearson Set Assignments (internal assessments) will create a significant reduction in administration and paperwork – and includes moderator feedback so that you have the opportunity to address any issues with assessment before they impact on the learner's results.
- ✓ The new Pearson Set Assignments have been based on Authorised Assignment Briefs from current qualifications, so will be familiar to teachers used to the previous qualifications.