



# Pearson

## Purpose Statement

<b>Name of regulated qualification</b>	
<b>QN: 603/7057/9</b>	<b>Title: Pearson BTEC Level 1/Level 2 Tech Award in Animal Care</b>

### Who is this qualification for?

The Pearson BTEC Level 1/Level 2 Tech Award in Animal Care is ideal for you if you are a pre-16 student working at level 1 or level 2 and would like to find out more about animal care. This course offers a practical introduction to life and work in the animal care sector. The qualification, which is 120 GLH, is the same size and level as a GCSE.

### The animal care sector

The animal care sector is developing rapidly from a low-grade, largely manual sector into a service industry meeting the broad demands of the animal-owning and interested public. In 2019 the Animal care industry was worth approximately £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 care, which range from working with small to large animals and with domesticated to exotic animals in sub-sector areas such as animal welfare, business, science and wildlife conservation.

### What does the qualification cover?

This course will give you the opportunity to develop knowledge and technical skills in a practical learning environment. You will also develop key skills, such as in communication (including verbal and analytical writing skills), research and project management (including providing an opportunity to demonstrate reflective practice by suggesting alternative approaches to a problem).

Everyone taking this qualification will study three components, covering the following content areas:

- **Component 1: Animal Handling.** In this component, you will develop animal handling skills. You will also gain an understanding of the principles of animal behaviour, allowing you to catch, handle and release animals safely.

- Component 2: Animal Accommodation and Housing. In this component, you will develop your understanding of the accommodation and housing requirements of animals by carrying out the preparation, maintenance and cleaning out of animal accommodation.
- Component 3: Animal Health and Welfare. In this component you will cover aspects of animal health and welfare and will equip learners with a good understanding of the relationship between looking after the wellbeing of the animal and the effect this has on maintaining animal strength and vigour.

### **Where will this take me?**

Once you have completed the qualification, you will have developed a practical understanding of the animal care sector. You will have built useful skills, which are not generally covered in GCSE courses, and you will have developed a good understanding of whether the animal care sector is for you and, if so, which part of it you might want to study further.

If you decide to go on to further study of animal care, the best option for you will depend on the grades you have achieved in this and the other qualifications you have taken, and what you enjoy doing. You could progress to a Level 2 Technical Certificate or to a Level 3 programme, such as A Levels, a T Level or a BTEC National, either on its own or in combination with A levels.

### **What other subjects go well with animal care?**

This course builds on and uses the knowledge and skills you learn in your GCSEs, particularly in biology. It can also be complementary learning for GCSE Biology, GCSE Business and GCSE Mathematics. This course is different from studying GCSEs as, by taking part in different types of handling and animal maintenance practical activities, it gives you the opportunity to apply your knowledge, skills and the techniques you learn in practical ways.