



openawards

Open Awards Entry Level 3 Award and Certificate in Horticulture Skills

Award 601/3250/4

Certificate 601/3241/6



QUALIFICATION GUIDE

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About the Qualification

Title	Entry Level Award/Certificate in Horticulture Skills Entry 3 (RQF)
QAN	Award – 601/3250/4 Certificate – 601/3251/6
Sector	3: Agriculture, Horticulture and Animal Care
Level	Entry Level 3
Funding	Please click here for more information
Pricing Information	Please click here for more information
Review Date	31/07/2026

Ofqual Purpose	Prepare for further learning or training and/or develop knowledge and/or skills in a subject area
Ofqual Sub-Purpose	Prepare for further learning or training Develop knowledge and/or skills in a subject area

Total Qualification Time/Guided Learning	
Award	
Total Qualification Time (hours)	80
Guided Learning (hours)	79
Certificate	
Total Qualification Time (hours)	160
Guided Learning (hours)	158

Age Range and Restrictions:	
Pre -16	✓
16 – 18	✓
19+	✓
Any other restrictions specific to the qualification(s)	None

Any specified entry requirements
The qualification is designed to be suitable for people working at Entry level including those with learning difficulties and/or disabilities. There are no age restrictions for working towards this qualification and no specific prior achievements required.

Recommended Assessment Method Summary

Learners will be required to complete a portfolio of evidence set and marked by the education provider and externally quality assured by Open Awards.

Candidates must provide sufficient evidence that they have the required knowledge, skills and understanding of the assessment criteria and that it is their own work.

Types of evidence could include:

- a) Observation of performance
- b) Questioning (written or oral)
- c) Practical Activities
- d) Photographs or videos
- e) Personal statements
- f) Project work
- g) Witness testimonies
- h) Group discussion
- i) Recognition of Prior Learning

Assessment practices must reflect the Equality and Diversity Policy of Open Awards.

Qualification Units

Rules of Combination	
Award	
Credit Value of the Qualification	8
Minimum Credits to be achieved at the Level of the Qualification	5
Mandatory Units A	1 credit to be achieved
Optional Group B	Minimum of 7 credits to be achieved
Certificate	
Credit Value of the Qualification	16
Minimum Credits to be achieved at the Level of the Qualification	9
Mandatory Units A	1 credit to be achieved
Optional Group B	Minimum of 15 credits to be achieved

Mandatory Units Group (MG)

QAC Code	Unit Name	Credits	Level
F/506/1092	Recognise Parts of Plants	1	Entry Level Three

Optional Units (OP)

QAC Code	Unit Name	Credits	Level
D/506/1097	Construct a Composter	2	Entry Level Three
L/506/1094	Control Weeds in a Planted Area	2	Entry Level Three
R/506/1095	Edge up an Amenity Area	1	Entry Level Three
A/506/1107	Fill Plant Containers	1	Entry Level Two
J/615/3895	Health and Safety Awareness	1	Entry Level Three
A/506/2340	Identify Annuals and Herbaceous Perennials	2	Level One
F/506/2338	Identify Trees and Shrubs	2	Level One
J/506/1093	Insert Plant Material	1	Entry Level Three
M/506/1105	Introduction to the Propagation of Plants	3	Entry Level Two
Y/615/3898	Maintain a Fence	2	Entry Level Two
D/615/3899	Maintain a Footpath	3	Entry Level Two
L/615/3896	Prepare and Plant an Area	2	Entry Level Two
J/505/2040	Project in Sustainability	3	Level One
R/615/3897	Recognise Plants	1	Entry Level Two

H/506/1103	Recognise, Use and Care for Tools Used in Horticulture	2	Entry Level Two
Y/506/1096	Shred Waste Vegetation	2	Entry Level Three
R/506/1100	Sustainability and Our Environment	1	Entry Level Three
Y/506/1101	Water a Bed, Border or Area of Plants in Containers	2	Level One
A/503/9317	Water Plant Material by Hand	1	Entry Level Three
T/506/1106	Weed a Planted Area	2	Entry Level Two

Delivering this Qualification

Becoming a Centre

To deliver this qualification you must be a recognised Open Awards centre. For more information, head to our website or contact the team on 0151 494 2072

How to Deliver

You can deliver this qualification by completing a [New Qualification Request Form](#) via the Open Awards portal. For more information, see the Centre Handbook, or contact the team on 0151 494 2072.

Registering Learners

Once you are ready to deliver this qualification, you will need to register your learners in line with the timescales below:

Short courses (15 weeks or less) within 25 working days of the course start date.

Full year long courses (over 15 weeks) within 60 working days of the course start date.

You will need to register your learners via the Open Awards [portal](#).

Quality Assurance and Standardisation

Delivery of this qualification must be done so in accordance with Ofqual regulatory guidelines and in line with Open Awards' quality assurance processes. Template forms and guidance documents are available via the Open Awards portal.

Centre Staff Requirements

Centres are responsible for ensuring that their staff are suitably skilled and experienced. Tutors/ assessors and internal quality assurance (IQA) staff must have relevant occupational knowledge and/or occupational competence at the same level or higher as the units being delivered.

Although not mandatory, best practice would be for Assessors to hold the relevant D32/D33/A1/AQA unit(s) and Level 3 Award in Education or Training. Likewise, best practice would be for Internal Verifiers to hold the relevant D34/V1/IQA unit(s).

Centres are responsible for notifying Open Awards of staff changes.

Training and support

Open Awards offers training and support events in Delivery & Assessment and Quality Assurance. These events are held throughout the year. Such events will also provide an opportunity to identify and share best practice. Up to date details of these training events are on our [website](#).

Internal Quality Assurance (IQA)

All centres delivering Open Awards provision must operate rigorous internal quality assurance systems. A centre must identify how they will internally quality assure and standardise their delivery and assessment before delivering a course.

External Quality Assurance (EQA)

Centre approval compliance monitoring and external quality assurance is carried out by Open Awards' Lead Quality Reviewers/External Quality Assurers who will confirm that the centre is assessing to standard and ensure that there are robust quality assurance systems embedded.

Please refer to Internal and External Quality Assurance within the Centre Handbook.

Standardisation

Centres are required to contribute to national standardisation as requested by Open Awards. Open Awards offers Standardisation events that are held throughout the year. Such events will also provide an opportunity to identify and share best practice. Up to date details of training and standardisation events can be found on our website.

Further guidance on Quality Assurance and Standardisation please refer to the [Centre Handbook](#)

Recognition of Prior Learning and Achievement (RPL)

RPL is a method of assessment that considers whether a learner can demonstrate that they can meet the assessment requirements for a unit through knowledge, understanding or skills they may already possess. Evidence of learning must be sufficient, reliable and valid.

It is the responsibility of the centre to inform Open Awards at registration of any exemptions and/or equivalences for which a claim may be made. These claims will be subject to external verification by the Open Awards' Lead Quality Reviewer for the centre.

For more information, please see our Recognition of Prior Learning Policy found on the Open Awards [portal](#).

Health and Safety

Due to the practical requirements of some of the units within this qualification, centres must ensure that appropriate risk assessments are in place for both the activities and individual learners to ensure the learners and staff safety throughout the course. As part of this, centres must ensure that learners and staff have access to appropriate clothing and personal protective equipment (PPE).

Appendices and Links

Appendix Name
Centre Handbook
Enquiries, Complaints and Appeals Policy
Equality and Diversity Policy
Invoicing Policy
Privacy Policy

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