



Change lives through learning

Open Awards Level 1 Certificate and Diploma in

Skills for Working in Land-Based Industries (RQF)

Certificate 601/7917/X

Diploma 603/3764/3

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Version Control

Jan 2022	<p>All qualification units have been revised to keep them relevant to sector requirements.</p> <p>An endorsed pathway has been added to the Certificate length. This means that all Pathway credit must be achieved from one group only. If learners achieve this the name of the pathway will be added to their Certificate.</p>
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	<p>For example, if a learner's 12 credits are all from Option Group B1 Animal Care, and are successful, they will receive an Open Awards Level 1 Certificate in Skills for Working in Land Based Industries (Animal Care). The same applies for the other option groups: B2 Horticulture; B3 Site Maintenance.</p> <p>However, learners' can still have credit from across the Pathways for their certificate if this would be of greater benefit to them. We call this a Non-Endorsed Pathway Certificate and successful learners will receive the Open Awards Level 2 Certificate in Skills for Working in Land Based Industries.</p> <p>For the Diploma there is no endorsed pathway available.</p> <p>The Optional Group Precision Farming Technology has been removed from this qualification.</p> <p>Units withdrawn and new units developed. See rules of combination and unit lists for details.</p> <p>GLH amended for both L1 Certificate and L1 Diploma to reflect new content.</p> <p>Minimum age amended to 16+</p> <p>Detail added with regards to required resources and staffing requirements.</p>
March 2026	Rebranding only

About the Qualification

Title	Open Awards Level 1 Certificate and Diploma in Skills for Working in Land-Based Industries (RQF)
Qualification Accreditation Number	Certificate 601/7917/X Diploma 603/3764/3
Sector	3.1 Agriculture, Horticulture and Animal Care
Level	One (1)
Funding	Please click here for more information
Pricing Information	Please click here for more information
Review Date	31/07/2031

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

Optional Achievement Routes

This qualification is achieved by completing a range of units from across land based sectors:

- Animal care
- Horticulture
- Site Maintenance

For the Level 1 Certificate, learners can achieve to complete the qualification as an endorsed pathway choosing all their optional units from one of the sectors. If they choose this option, this will appear on the qualification certificate in brackets after the title e.g. Open Awards Level 1 Certificate in Skills for Working in Land-Based Industries (Animal Care) (RQF).

Total Qualification Time/Guided Learning	
Certificate	
Total Qualification Time (hours)	180
Guided Learning (hours)	138
Diploma	
Total Qualification Time (hours)	370
Guided Learning (hours)	244

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

Any Specified Entry Requirements

This qualification is not suitable for learners below the age of 16 due to the nature of the content and the inherent risks involved in land-based activities, to both the learner, any animals and other individuals.

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.

Learners 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.

This qualification has been designed to allow for a mix of practical and classroom based activities as appropriate for individual learner's requirements and programmes of study. Please see the individual units outlined in this qualification for assessment criteria and any specified requirements.

Qualification Structure

Rules of Combination

Certificate	
Credit Value of the Qualification:	18
Minimum Credits to be achieved at the Level of the Qualification:	18
Mandatory Units A:	6 credits to be achieved
Optional Units B1 – Animal Care	A minimum of 12 credits to be achieved across the Optional Groups or from one chosen Optional Group for an endorsed pathway.
Optional Units B2 – Horticulture	
Optional Units B3 – Site Maintenance	
Diploma	
Credit Value of the Qualification:	37
Minimum Credits to be achieved at the Level of the Qualification:	37
Mandatory Units A:	6 credits to be achieved
Optional Units B1 – Animal Care	A minimum of 31 credits to be achieved across the Optional Groups
Optional Units B2 – Horticulture	
Optional Units B3 – Site Maintenance	

Qualification Units

Mandatory Units A (all units must be achieved to be awarded the qualification)

Unit Reference Number	Unit Name	Credits	Level
F/618/8323	Introduction to Land-based Studies	3	Level One
A/618/8322	Health and Safety in the Workplace	3	Level One

Optional Units B1 – Animal Care

Unit Reference Number	Unit Name	Credits	Level
J/618/8324	Assist with Feeding and Watering Horses	2	Level One

L/618/8325	Assist with Moving Animals	3	Level One
R/618/8326	Assist with Preparing and Storing Feedstuffs for Animals	3	Level One
Y/618/8330	Assist with the Preparation for Exercise and Aftercare for Horses	6	Level One
Y/618/8327	Assist with the Care of Animals	3	Level One
D/618/8328	Assist with the Maintenance and Cleaning of Animal Accommodation	3	Level One
H/618/8329	Assist with the Preparation and Monitoring of Livestock Outdoors	2	Level One
D/618/8331	Exercise Horses	6	Level One
H/618/8332	Grooming and Washing Horses	4	Level One
K/618/8333	Maintain the Health of Horses	6	Level One
M/618/8334	Monitoring the Health and Well-being of Horses	3	Level One

Optional Units B2 – Horticulture

Unit Reference Number	Unit Name	Credits	Level
T/618/8335	Assist with Preparing Sites and Planting Extensive Crops	4	Level One
A/618/8336	Assist with the Maintenance of Grass Surfaces	3	Level One
F/618/8337	Care for Planted Areas	2	Level One
J/618/8338	Harvest Crops	4	Level One
L/618/8339	Identify Plants and Trees	6	Level One
F/618/8340	Prepare Ground for Sowing and Planting	3	Level One
J/618/8341	Soil Care	3	Level One
L/618/8342	Sowing Grass Seed by Hand	1	Level One
R/618/8343	Understand Pests, Diseases and Disorders in Plants and Trees	5	Level One
Y/618/8344	Understanding Soils and Crop Plants	3	Level One

Optional Units B3 – Site Maintenance

Unit Reference Number	Unit Name	Credits	Level
D/618/8345	<u>Adopt Good Bio-security Practices at Work</u>	3	Level One
H/618/8346	<u>Assist with Cleaning the Stables and Yard</u>	4	Level One
K/618/8347	<u>Assist with Maintaining Structures and Surfaces</u>	2	Level One
T/618/8349	<u>Assist with the Basic Preparation and Operation of a Tractor</u>	3	Level One
K/618/8350	<u>Assist with the Maintenance of Equipment</u>	3	Level One
M/618/8348	<u>Assist with Site Maintenance</u>	3	Level One
M/618/8351	<u>Assist with the Transport of Physical Resources within the Workplace</u>	2	Level One
T/618/8352	<u>Clearing and Weeding Outdoor Spaces</u>	2	Level One
J/618/8355	<u>Maintain Wooden Structures with Water-based Preservatives</u>	3	Level One
A/618/8353	<u>Safe and Effective Working Practices in Land-based Industries</u>	6	Level One

Delivering this Qualification

Becoming a Provider

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

How to Deliver

To request to deliver this qualification, please login to [the Portal](#) and then click on 'Tracking' and 'Initiate a Workflow'. You will then need to select 'Apply to Deliver Regulated Qualification(s)'.

For support with this process, please see the following document in the Portal 'Provider Portal Guidance – Qualification Approval' or contact the team on customerservices@openawards.org.uk or 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.
Long courses (over 15 weeks) within 60 working days of the course start date.

You will need to register your learners via [the 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. Please see our website for more information.

Provider Staff Requirements

Providers 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.

Tutors and Assessors should hold appropriate teaching and assessing qualifications at Level 3 or above and should hold either relevant subject specialist qualifications in their delivery area at Level 3 or above, or substantial demonstrable experience in their field (minimum 5 years)

Providers are responsible for notifying Open Awards of staff changes.

Assessment

Open Awards units and qualifications have been designed around the principle that the learner will build evidence towards the achievement of the assessment criteria over a period of time. Each learner is required to build a portfolio of evidence to demonstrate that all the assessment criteria associated with each unit has been met.

Tutors and assessors need to ensure that all evidence presented in a portfolio is:

Valid: it should clearly demonstrate the knowledge or skills that are set out in the assessment criteria. It should also clearly be the work of the learner.

Reliable: it will in general, produce the same range of responses from learners, as long as they are used in similar circumstances and with similar groups of learners.

Inclusive: so that no individual learner is excluded from the opportunity to show their achievement because of their individual background or experience.

Assessors are required to review and assess all learner evidence and must be satisfied that learners have achieved all learning outcomes and assessment criteria relating to the unit being assessed prior to deciding the learner has completed the unit. Assessors will also ensure that the evidence produced by the learner is their own work.

Assessors retain records (e.g. Feedback Sheets, Individual Progress Record, Group Progress Record) on behalf of the Provider which are made available and used by the Provider's Internal Quality Assurer and Open Awards' Quality Assurance Team.

Training and support

Open Awards offers a variety of training and support to Providers. Our online training and support is free of charge and can be accessed on the following link <https://oallearn.org.uk/shop>. An everlasting coupon (PLUC code) will be issued to each Provider to gain free access to these resources.

Internal Quality Assurance (IQA)

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

External Quality Assurance (EQA)

Provider approval, compliance monitoring and external quality assurance is carried out by the Open Awards Quality Assurance Team/ External Quality Assurers who will confirm that the Provider is assessing to standard and ensure that there are robust internal quality assurance systems embedded.

Standardisation

Providers 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.

For further guidance on Quality Assurance and Standardisation, please refer to the [Provider 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 Provider 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 quality assurance by the Open Awards Quality Assurance Team.

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

Health and Safety

It is acknowledged that elements of this qualification will be delivered in a practical setting and could include work-place learning. It is therefore essential that appropriate health and safety guidelines are followed at all times and appropriate risk assessments in place to safeguard the learners. It is recommended that all learners complete a full induction, including relevant health and safety instruction.

Below is a list of suggested resources to support providers with appropriate guidelines for Health and Safety. This is not intended as an exhaustive list. It is important that providers follow their own internal health and safety and risk

assessment processes and ensure they are following all relevant Health and Safety guidance;

- Health and Safety Executive
- <http://www.hse.gov.uk/agriculture/index.htm>
- British Veterinary Association
- [http://www.bva.co.uk/Workplace-guidance/Practice management/farmhealth-and-safety/](http://www.bva.co.uk/Workplace-guidance/Practice%20management/farmhealth-and-safety/)
- Gov.uk
- <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/farm-health-and-safety>
- Agricultural Industries Confederation (AIC)
- <https://www.agindustries.org.uk/sectors/fertiliser/legislation-guidancecodesofpractice/health-and-safety/>

Curriculum Planning Examples

Level 1 Certificate in Skills for Working in Land-Based Industries (RQF) (Animal Care) (Endorsed Pathway)

The follow is a case study of a curriculum example for this qualification, which is following an endorsed option pathway route. If the learners successfully achieve the units below they will receive an Open Awards Level 1 Certificate in Skills for Working in Land-Based Industries (RQF) (Animal Care).

Case study: Ibrahim is interested in working with animals and not sure if he would like to work in a pet store or pursue a veterinary apprenticeship. The following has been devised for his learning.

Mandatory Unit Group A

Unit Reference Number	Unit Name	Credits	Level
F/618/8323	Introduction to Land-based Studies	3	Level One
A/618/8322	Health and Safety in the Workplace	3	Level One
	Total Credit	6	

Optional Units B1 Animal Care

Unit Reference Number	Unit Name	Credits	Level
L/618/8325	Assist with Moving Animals	3	Level One

R/618/8326	Assist with Preparing and Storing Feedstuffs for Animals	3	Level One
Y/618/8327	Assist with the Care of Animals	3	Level One
D/618/8328	Assist with the Maintenance and Cleaning of Animal Accommodation	3	Level One
	Total Credit	12	

Notes: There are other units within this option group which may be more relevant around equine and larger animal care. In addition, learners may choose their 12 Optional credits from B2: Horticulture or B3: Site Maintenance. Successful learners would have these optional pathways printed on their certificate in the same way as Animal Care is for the units above.

If Ibrahim is successful in completing and achieve this route he could progress to:

Employment Opportunities:

- Pet Store Assistant
- Dog Grooming Assistant
- Foster Carer for Animals

Apprenticeship Opportunities:

- Animal Care and Welfare Assistant
- Underkeeper

These are suggestions and apprenticeships may be subject to change, but should provide an example of the flexibility within the qualification which can meet a variety of learner needs and aspirations.

Level 1 Certificate in Skills for Working in Land-Based Industries (RQF) (Non-endorsed pathway)

The following is a case study of a curriculum example for this qualification, which is following a non-endorsed pathway route. This provides a broader curriculum and learning experience, and can lead to an Open Awards Level 1 Certificate in Skills for Working in Land-Based Industries (RQF).

Case study: Grace is interested in working within the land-based sector, but not really sure what she would like to progress to. Thus, she needs a wider curriculum experience to enable her to have progression options. The following has been devised for her learning.

Mandatory Unit Group A

Unit Reference Number	Unit Name	Credits	Level
F/618/8323	Introduction to Land-based Studies	3	Level One
A/618/8322	Health and Safety in the Workplace	3	Level One
	Total Credit	6	

Optional Units B1 Animal Care

Unit Reference Number	Unit Name	Credits	Level
Y/618/8327	Assist with the Care of Animals	3	Level One
	Total Credit	3	

Optional Units B2 Horticulture

Unit Reference Number	Unit Name	Credits	Level
A/618/8336	Assist with the Maintenance of Grass Surfaces	3	Level One
F/618/8337	Care for Planted Areas	2	Level One
	Total Credits	5	

Optional Units B3 Site Maintenance

Unit Reference Number	Unit Name	Credits	Level
T/618/8349	Assist with the Basic Preparation and Operation of a Tractor	3	Level One
M/618/8351	Assist with the Transport of Physical Resources within the Workplace	2	Level One
	Total credit	5	

Notes: This curriculum suggestion would mean that Grace gains 19 credits. This is an additional credit to overall credit required for the qualification. However, as it is within Open Awards tolerance it is acceptable.

If Grace is successful in completing and achieve this route she could progress to:
Employment Opportunities:

- Farm Labourer
- Pet Shop Assistant

Apprenticeship Opportunities:

- General Farm Worker
- Land-based service engineer
- Horticulture or landscape operative.

These are suggestions and apprenticeships may be subject to change, but should provide an example of the flexibility within the qualification which can meet a variety of learner needs and aspirations.

Level 1 Diploma in Skills for Working in Land-Based Industries (RQF) Non-endorsed pathway

For this qualification you will need to follow the Rules of Combination. Ensure that you gain credit from each of the Optional Groups so that you can make a wide curriculum offering for your learners to enable them to aspire to their goals.

Appendices and Links

The following documents can be viewed on the Open Awards [website](#):

1. Provider Handbook
2. Enquiries, Complaints and Appeals Policy
3. Equality and Diversity Policy
4. Invoicing Policy
5. Privacy Policy

Further supporting information can be found on the Open Awards Portal.

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Open Awards

17 De Havilland Drive,
Estuary Commerce Park
Speke
Liverpool
L24 8N

0151 494 2072

enquiries@openawards.org.uk

www.openawards.org.uk

@openawards