

Apprenticeship Title	Animal Care and Welfare Assistant		
Duration	Minimum of 12 months & typically 18 months	Level	2
Overview of the job role on completion of your apprenticeship	<p>Animal Care and Welfare Assistants look after the routine day to day husbandry and care of domestic and/or wild animals under guidance in a variety of different settings. The work is carried out individually or as part of a team in places such as kennels and catteries, laboratories, animal welfare centres, farm parks, rehabilitation centres, retail outlets and in the transportation of animals. Animal Care and Welfare Assistants must have a strong work ethic and be prepared to work irregular hours in all weather conditions. They must maintain safe working practices and take responsibility for themselves, animals and others.</p> <p>Typical jobs may include; kennel/cattery assistant, animal technician, animal welfare assistant, animal day care assistant, , animal collection officer, wildlife rehabilitation assistant, zoo keeper assistant, pet retail assistant, animal handler, veterinary care assistant, farm park assistant.</p>		
Breakdown of what will be covered during your Apprenticeship. Please note apprentices will need to achieve the core skills, knowledge & behaviours as well as one of the options from the following list depending on their employment situation; Animal interaction & handling, Rehoming, Movement & transportation, Operational & reception duties, Breeding, Zoos, Aquaria & exotics, Working dog handler, Wildlife rehabilitation, Veterinary care support.			
Skills	Behaviours	Knowledge	
Comply with UK & EU Animal related legislation	Safe working	UK & EU Animal related legislation	
Work effectively in a safe & healthy working environment following current/relevant health & safety legislation & work place policies	Work ethic	Current legislation, policies, procedures, guidelines, Codes of practice and ethics relevant to the workplace & the health & welfare of animals	
Identify & report potential hazards & breaches of security within animal accommodation/enclosures	Responsibility	The species/breeds specific to your role and common characteristics	
Clean & maintain animal accommodation/enclosures/environment & equipment & provide appropriate resources including species specific enrichment (e.g. hiding, perches, places to dig etc.)	Team work	Signs that indicate potential problems with animals' health & welfare & the actions that should be taken	

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Marketing and Business Development/ Marketing and Business Development/Fact Sheets/Standards	Learner Standards Information Animal Care L2	RD	08.18	1	08.19



APPRENTICESHIP STANDARD INFORMATION FOR LEARNERS

Maintain hygiene, bio security procedures & infection control when working with animals including quarantine & isolation	Communication	The types of basic medication, route of administration, safe handling & disposal of medication
Dispose of waste in a safe & appropriate manner in line with legislative & workplace requirements	Professionalism	Animal first aid, urgent, ongoing & preventative care
Store, use & administer medication in line with legislative & veterinary instructions as appropriate		Accommodation & environment requirements that are suitable & safe for animals
Monitor, record & report the health & welfare of animals in line with animal welfare legislation & work place policies		The use of different cleaning materials & equipment
Observe & be aware of the behaviour of animals & take appropriate actions		Feeding, watering & basic nutrition & characteristics of foodstuffs
Approach/ handle/ restrain/move/recapture animals as part of routine husbandry appropriate for the species & individual		How to safely approach/handle/restrain/move animals
Exercise/socialise animals & provide appropriate enrichment relevant to their needs		The behaviours of the animal, applicable to the species & how it impacts its care & welfare such as stress/distress/pain/fear/frustration
Provide appropriate care, for example coat, skin, scales, plumage & feet to ensure good health & appearance		How the animal you are working with learns & the basic principles of re-enforcement techniques
Provide food & water to animals & monitor the intake		How an animal's natural behaviour impacts its diet & feeding patterns
Store & care for foodstuffs		The different methods required to meet the animal's need for enrichment/exercise opportunities, appropriate to species & individual animal
Identify & describe animals using appropriate methods to the species involved (e.g. scanning for microchips)		Different skin & coat requirements of animals in their care
Maintain, update & reference correct records in accordance with current legislation		Basic anatomy & physiology
Deliver customer experience (internal & external) where applicable, in line with work place policies & procedures		Data protection & records in line with legislation, codes of practice & workplace requirements

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Respond to animal first aid, urgent, ongoing & preventative care requirements as appropriate		The importance of the human & animal bond
		The changing needs of animals' dependent on their life stage
		Basic awareness of capture techniques
		Hygiene, bio-security procedures & infection controls when working with animals including quarantine, zoonoses, anthroponosis, isolation protocols
Maths & English requirements		
Apprentices will be required to have or achieve level 1 English and Maths Functional Skills tests and have attempted Level 2 prior to passing through Gateway towards completion of their apprenticeship.		
Progression	Completion of this apprenticeship may lead to more specialised roles within the animal care sector to include Animal Trainer	

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Process for completion of the Apprenticeship

On Programme	Apprentice works & trains with Employer & Training Provider to develop skills, knowledge and behaviours required to perform role effectively, prepare for End Point Assessment and to meet maths & English requirements to complete apprenticeship	Gateway	The employer and if appropriate in conjunction with the Training provider, will formally sign off that the apprentice has met the minimum requirements in regards to knowledge, skills & behaviours within the standard and confirm that they are ready to move on to the End Point Assessment. This will happen during a meeting involving the apprentice, their line manager and the trainer (at about 14 months after start)	End Point Assessment	Synoptic assessment to be conducted by independent assessors. Will be in the form of a two-part process and can be achieved at either Pass or Distinction. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Practical observation b) Professional discussion supported by portfolio evidence
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