iPET Network

Level 2 Certificate in Animal Care

Qualification Number - 610/3812/X

Qualification Specification

Our Mission

EDUCATION FOR PEOPLE, FOR PETS, FOR THE FUTURE
To be the Awarding Organisation of choice for Training Providers, Employers and Learners in the Animal Care and Veterinary Science Sector.

We demand the highest standard of practice to ensure our suite of qualifications work: they work for pets who deserve the best care; they work for learners giving valuable skills, and they work for Training Providers with strong market appeal.

Leading the way:

iPET Network is an Awarding Organisation regulated by Ofqual, CCEA Regulation and Qualifications Wales, specialising in qualifications in the Animal Care and Veterinary Science sector. iPET Network is a sector-specific Awarding Organisation and are constantly developing innovative animal care and veterinary science qualifications in the industry. We are unique in our approach to development, design and awarding of qualifications through the range of services and support we offer. Additionally, iPET Network is an End-point Assessment Awarding Organisation (EPAO) for English Apprenticeship standards and offers Professional Development Recognition (PDR) of unregulated educational courses.

Our approved Training Providers have exclusive access to our portfolio of qualifications, courses, learning materials and assessment strategies. We offer an inclusive opportunity to join a diverse network of forward-thinking professionals across the UK, Ireland, Europe and internationally.

We do the hard work for you – fast, flexible and straightforward:

We have developed robust systems at the forefront of technology that include extensive resources, quality learning materials and varied assessment methods. Our centralised platform makes it simple for Training Providers and their teams to deliver, manage, mark and quality assure all in one place. We provide access to training and updates through standardisation to uphold modern best practice.

Organisations of many different types, who want to deliver education, can join iPET Network, taking advantage of becoming a direct approved Training Provider. With transparent fees and packages to suit every size of organisation from sole traders to limited companies, colleges and large employers.

An exciting and supportive community:

We practice what we preach - the iPET Network team has extensive experience and knowledge of working in the animal care, veterinary science and education sector. We provide support, advice and Continual Professional Development to help Training Providers offer the best standard of education and to inspire the future generation of the industry. We believe in removing learning barriers and working with Candidates of all abilities to help them reach their full potential.

Contents

1. About This Qualification

The **iPET Network Level 2 Certificate in Animal Care** qualification has been developed for Candidates seeking a specialised qualification in Animal Care. This qualification has been designed to give Candidates options to choose from a variety of areas to tailor the qualification to their needs and interests. Depending on the units chosen, candidates will gain knowledge, understanding and skills of various aspects of animal care, to include health, husbandry, handling, nutrition, legislation, animal related organisations and preparation for employment. The qualification enables Candidates to develop practical skills in animal care with a range of animals. It is an ideal qualification for learners intending to progress onto the iPET Network Level 2 Diploma in Animal Care following completion of the certificate, or to look to seek employment in the animal care sector.

This qualification has been developed in collaboration with industry experts to ensure that the content is relevant, current and meets the needs of the animal and education sector.

Objectives of the Qualification

Depending on the units chosen, this qualification has been designed to enable Candidates to:

- Know the general health care requirements for a range of animals
- Know the housing, handling, moving and feeding requirements when keeping animals
- Know the legislation, personal protective equipment (PPE), dress code, signs/symbols, risk assessments, procedures, effective handwashing, disinfection, sterilisation and waste disposal relevant to working in the animal industry
- Know legislation relevant to animal welfare and animal related organisations and their aims
- Know the range of employment opportunities in the animal sector, their requirements and how to successfully navigate the application and interview process
- Be able to develop and demonstrate practical animal skills for a range of animals, to include working safely, setting up and maintaining animal accommodation, food selection and provision, handling, monitoring health and transportation

Depending on the needs of the Candidate, the qualification can:

- Prepare individuals to progress to another qualification in the same subject area, studying at a higher level or a qualification requiring more specific knowledge, skills and understanding.
- Improve employability skills.
- Encourage engagement in learning.

Suggested progression following completion of the qualification:

- iPET Network Level 2 Diploma in Animal Care
- Other Level 2 vocationally related qualifications
- iPET Network Level 3 Certificate in Dog Day Care and Boarding
- iPET Network Level 3 Diploma in Dog Grooming and Salon Management
- iPET Network Level 3 Diploma in Cat Grooming and Salon Management

- Level 3 in Animal Management
- Level 3 Apprenticeships in relevant sector
- Career in animal care or veterinary nursing

It is a requirement that assessment of this qualification is conducted in English.

The iPET Network Level 2 Certificate in Animal Care is a regulated qualification.

Guided Learning Hours (GLH)

Guided Learning Hours (GLH) are defined by the Apprenticeships, Skills, Children and Learning Act, 2009 as the number of hours the Candidate spends:

- Being taught or given instruction by a lecturer, tutor, supervisor or other appropriate provider of education or training, or
- Otherwise participating in education or training under the immediate guidance or supervision of such a person.

GLH does not include time spent on unsupervised preparation or study, whether at home or otherwise.

iPET Network has calculated the GLH for this qualification representing an estimate of the amount of actual guided learning which could reasonably be expected to be required to achieve the standard required to obtain the qualification.

Estimated GLH will be stated for each unit which should be used by Training Providers as a guide for devising teaching and learning plans. GLH may be recorded within the e-portfolio (if being used) or within the Candidate Hours Log (if the e-portfolio is not used).

Total Qualification Time (TQT)

Total qualification time is defined as the number of Guided Learning Hours (GLH) **plus** the time taken by the Candidate for independent, unsupervised study. Individual Learners' requirements and individual teaching styles mean there will be variation in the actual time taken to complete a qualification. Values for Total Qualification Time are estimates as some Candidates will be able to achieve units and qualifications within a shorter time than indicated. Others, for example those with additional support requirements, may need longer.

Guided Learning Hours and Total Qualification Time for this qualification are:

iPET Network Level 2 Certificate in Animal Care:

GLH (Guided Learning Hours): 135 hours

TQT (Total Qualification Time): 168 hours

Qualification Delivery Requirements

Unit 233 Practical Animal Skills (mandatory unit), Observations must be carried out live, **face-to-face** in person.

Unit 230 Health, Safety and Hygiene is assessed by an external online multiple choice examination, which is set and marked by iPET Network. It must be conducted **live** and invigilated either by a Training Provider/Centre **in person** or via live **remote** invigilation.

The remainder of the qualification may be delivered as the Training Provider sees fit, ensuring that Guided Learning Hours requirements are met. As part of the application to deliver, Training Providers must be able to evidence how they intend to deliver the qualification, including the methods by which they will achieve the estimated GLH and TQT.

2. Candidate Requirements

Entry Requirements

All Candidates must meet the following criteria:

- The minimum age for access to this qualification is 14 years.
- It is desirable to have three GCSEs at grade D (or equivalent) or above to include English Language/First Language Welsh and Mathematics/Numeracy/Science, or successful completion of Level 1 qualification e.g. BTEC and Level 1 equivalent achievement in English and mathematics through GCSE or Functional Skills.

There are no other specific pre-requisites however, all Candidates must be screened via an initial assessment, either through an interview or alternative suitable means, with the Training Provider to ensure their suitability for the registration on the qualification. Whilst the above criteria form the basis of eligibility, Candidates may be registered at the Training Provider's discretion and expects that approved Training Providers will recruit with honesty, based on a Candidate's capacity to contribute to and effectively fulfill all the demands of a unit(s) or the entire qualification.

Reasonable Adjustment and Special Considerations

Assessment within this qualification is designed to be accessible and inclusive. The assessment methodology is appropriate and rigorous for individuals or groups of Candidates.

iPET Network is an inclusive organisation and operates in line with legislation set out in the Equality Act, 2010. It should be noted that any Candidate registering for an iPET Network qualification, must be able to meet the assessment criteria (theoretical and practical), with appropriate reasonable adjustment where required, in order to be certificated.

Those Candidates with additional educational or physical needs, should discuss their support requirements with their Training Provider. Training Providers should refer to the *Reasonable Adjustments and Special*

Considerations Policy which gives clear guidance on the reasonable adjustments and arrangements that take account of disability or learning difficulty without compromising the achievement of the assessment criteria.

Further guidance and support can be accessed by contacting iPET Network on info@ipetnetwork.co.uk

3. Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL)

Exemption (also known as 'Recognition of Prior Certificated Learning) - is the facility for a Candidate to claim exemption from some of the achievement requirements of an iPET Network qualification using certificated evidence, for example certificated NQF achievement. This must be of an equivalent or higher value to an iPET Network unit but may not share the exact assessment criteria or learning aims.

Training Providers wishing to obtain further details regarding awarding of RPL should refer to the iPET Network *Recognition of Prior Learning Policy.*

4. Induction / Initial Assessment

An initial assessment of each Candidate should be made before the start of their programme to identify:

- If the Candidate has any specific learning or training needs
- The support and guidance they may need when working towards their qualification
- The Candidate's suitability for the type and level of qualification

Each Training Provider must carry out an induction so that Candidates fully understand the requirements of the qualification, their responsibilities as a Candidate, and the responsibilities of the Training Provider. This information will need to be recorded e.g., within a contract.

During the induction, Candidates must be made aware of academic malpractice and the consequences of committing malpractice such as plagiarism or cheating. Please see iPET Network's *Malpractice and Maladministration Policy and Procedure (including sanctions)* for details of indicative sanctions against Candidates.

5. Achieving the Qualification

Credits

To be awarded the iPET Network Level 2 Certificate in Animal Care, Candidates must achieve a minimum of 18 credits and a maximum of 23 credits.

Unit Achievement

Please refer to the Unit Grading sections of this specification. Individual unit certification can be achieved.

Recording Achievement

Training Providers must record the Candidate's achievement of the unit on an appropriate form(s) or electronic system. Training Providers should record the Candidate's achievement against the specific unit assessment criteria evidenced by the task. Assessment results must be uploaded to the web portal for each unit, including referred/failed units. Unit results must also be uploaded to the web portal for each unit. For example, For Unit 230, the multiple choice test assessment result must be uploaded, followed by the overall unit grade.

Authentication of the Candidate's Work

Tutors must demonstrate that the Candidate's work is authentic. This can be done through using iPET Network's e-portfolio system which provides secure access to each Candidate or through use of an alternative e-portfolio system. If a Training Provider is using paper-based portfolio, they must be able to demonstrate authenticity of the work and must provide transparent feedback from marking to internal quality assurance.

Assessments must demonstrate authenticity please refer to assessment methods in the Qualification Handbook.

Duration of Registration

All Candidates will be registered with iPET Network for a period of 18 months. Failure of the Candidate to complete the qualification during this timeframe will incur an additional charge for re-registration. Please refer to your *Terms and Conditions* for further details. Extension to registration may be obtained with written permission under specific extenuating circumstances. Please contact iPET Network for advice regarding extensions to registration.

6. Qualification Structure

Units

Candidates may choose from the units listed below in line with the Rules of Combination.

iPET Network Reference No.	Title	Level	Credit	GLH	TQT	Unit Reference number
228	**Animal Health and Diseases**	2	7	60	66	R/651/0435
229	**Animal Husbandry, Handling and Nutrition**	2	7	60	66	Y/651/0437
230	**Health, Safety and Hygiene**	2	5	30	45	D/651/0439
231	**Animal Welfare Legislation and Organisations**	2	4	30	36	J/651/0440
232	**Preparation for Work**	2	2	15	21	K/651/0441
233	**Practical Animal Skills**	2	7	60	70	L/651/0442

Level Descriptor

Level	Knowledge Descriptor (the holder…)	Skills Descriptor (the holder can…)
Level 2	Has knowledge and understanding of facts, procedures and ideas in an area of study or field of work to complete well-defined tasks and address straightforward problems. Can interpret relevant information and ideas. Is aware of a range of information that is relevant to the area of study or work.	Select and use relevant cognitive and practical skills to complete well-defined, generally routine tasks and address straightforward problems. Identify, gather and use relevant information to inform actions. Identify how effective actions have been.

Rules of Combination

Candidates must achieve a minimum of 18 credits and a maximum of 23 credits from any of the units.

Qualification Grading

In order to be awarded a qualification, a Candidate must complete all units in line with the qualification Rules of Combination.

To achieve any qualification grade, Candidates must:

- Complete and have an outcome (Pass / Merit / Distinction / Not Achieved/Fail) for all units in line with the Rules of Combination
- Achieve the required units at pass or above
- Achieve the required minimum number of points for a specific grade threshold

Grade	Overall Points - Certificate
Not Achieved/Fail	Less than 36
Pass	36-48
Merit	56-72
Distinction	76-96

Candidates who do not meet the minimum requirements for a qualification grade to be awarded will be recorded as Not Achieved and will not be certificated. Candidates may receive individual unit certification.

Unit Grading

All units are graded pass, merit, distinction or fail/not achieved.

For units 228, 229, 231, 232 and 233 the below requirements must be met. This excludes Unit 230 which includes a multiple choice test.

Grade	Requirements
Not Achieved/Fail	A Candidate will be considered to have failed a unit if they do not achieve all the pass assessment criteria in that unit.
Pass	To achieve a pass in a unit the Candidate must have successfully completed all the pass assessment criteria in that unit.
Merit	To achieve a merit in a unit the Candidate must have successfully completed all the pass and merit criteria in that unit.
Distinction	To achieve a distinction in a unit the Candidate must have successfully completed all the pass, merit and distinction criteria in that unit.

Candidates can fail the units once each and still achieve a Merit or Distinction. If a student attempts any of the units a third time (2nd re-sit), the highest grade achievable for the unit is a Pass.

Grading of Multiple Choice Tests

For unit 230 which is a graded unit and is assessed exclusively by a multiple choice test, the following grading applies:

Unit 230 - Grading Percentages - Multiple Choice Test
Fail: less than 50%
Pass: 50% (30 questions out of 60)
Merit: 65% (39 questions out of 60)
Distinction: 80% (48 questions out of 60)

Calculation of the Overall Qualification Grade

The overall grade received for a qualification reflects the culmination of a Candidate's performance throughout the qualification. Since the grade is an aggregate of all performances, there is a degree of balancing involved, where higher levels of performance in certain units can offset lower results in others.

Points Available for Each Unit

The table below shows the number of points available for each of the graded units. Each unit is allocated points depending on the grade awarded.

	Graded Unit Points		
	60 GLH	30 GLH	15 GLH
Not Achieved/Fail	0	0	0
Pass	16	8	4
Merit	24	16	8
Distinction	32	24	16

Please refer to the table overleaf for an overview of the units and the points available.

iPET Network Reference No.	Unit Reference Number	Title	Level	Credit	GLH	TQT	Grading Pass (P) Merit (M) Distinction (D) Not Achieved/Fail (NA/F)	Points Available Pass	Points Available Merit	Points Available Distinction
228	R/651/0435	**Animal Health and Diseases**	2	7	60	66	P / M / D / NA/F	16	24	32
229	Y/651/0437	**Animal Husbandry, Handling and Nutrition**	2	7	60	66	P / M / D / NA/F	16	24	32
230	D/651/0439	**Health, Safety and Hygiene**	2	5	30	45	P / M / D / NA/F	8	12	16
231	J/651/0440	**Animal Welfare Legislation and Organisations**	2	4	30	36	P / M / D / NA/F	8	12	16
232	K/651/0441	**Preparation for Work**	2	2	15	21	P / M / D / NA/F	4	8	12
233	L/651/0442	**Practical Animal Skills**	2	7	60	70	P / M / D / R/F	16	24	32

Examples of grade calculation based on registrations from 2024.

As per the Rules of Combination, Candidates are required to achieve a minimum of 18 credits and a maximum of 23 credits.

Example 1: Pass grade achieved. *This is an example of a student who has achieved a Pass across all units and has achieved an overall Pass. The green rows indicate the units completed by the Candidate.*

Unit	GLH	Credit	Grade	Points
228	60	7	Pass	16
229	60	7	Pass	16
230	15	5	Pass	8
231	30	4	Pass	8
232	15	2	Pass	4
233	60	7	Pass	16
			Pass	**36**

Example 2: Pass grade achieved. *This is an example of a student who has achieved a combination of Pass and Merit grades across all units and has achieved an overall Pass.*

Unit	GLH	Credit	Grade	Points
228	60	7	Pass	16
229	60	7	Pass	16
230	15	5	Pass	8
231	30	4	Pass	8
232	15	2	Merit	8
233	60	7	Pass	16
			Pass	**40**

Example 3: Merit grade achieved.

Unit	GLH	Credit	Grade	Points
228	60	7	Merit	24
229	60	7	Merit	24
230	15	5	Merit	12
231	30	4	Merit	12
232	15	2	Merit	8
233	60	7	Merit	24
			Merit	**56**

Example 4: Distinction grade achieved.

Unit	GLH	Credit	Grade	Points
228	60	7	Distinction	32
229	60	7	Distinction	32
230	15	5	Distinction	16
231	30	4	Distinction	16
232	15	2	Distinction	12
233	60	7	Distinction	32
			Distinction	**80**

Claiming the Qualification Grade

Training Providers should record achievement as per the **Recording Achievement** section of this handbook. The grade achieved by the Candidate for each assessment (to include Failed assessments) on the web portal electronic system. Training Providers must record the grade achieved by the Candidate for each unit (to include Not Achieved/Failed units) on the web portal electronic system. Assessors will be required to submit the calculated overall qualification grade to the internal quality assurer, at the point of requesting summative sampling. At the point of certificate request, the overall qualification grade should be checked and submitted via the web portal.

Upgrading to the Level 2 Diploma in Animal Care

For those Candidates who have met the Rules of Combination and wish to upgrade from the Level 2 Certificate to the Level 2 Diploma, units completed within the certificate may be eligible for exemption. Please contact info@ipetnetwork.co.uk for more guidance.

7. Assessment

This qualification requires achievement of the specified units and summative assessments. The assessment process is as follows:

1. Assessments are developed by iPET Network and provided to the Training Provider or assessments may be devised by the Training Provider and approved by iPET Network in advance
2. The assessment is then delivered and implemented by the relevant iPET Network approved Training Provider
3. All Tutors involved in the assessment process must have been approved by iPET Network, on an individual basis, in advance of any assessments being carried out
4. Compiled portfolios of assessed evidence are internally quality assured by an iPET Network approved Internal Quality Assurer (IQA) via remote sampling.

5. Completed portfolios of assessed evidence are then quality assured by an External Quality Assurer (EQA) approved by iPET Network.

Assessment Method

Assessment is through a Portfolio of Evidence, Multiple Choice Test, Workbook and Practical Observation.

Specimen Assessment Materials

Specimen assessment materials are available for this qualification as follows:

- Unit 230: Health, Safety and Hygiene – Mock Multiple Choice Test

Marking

The Assessor's decision is final. The use of artificial intelligence to mark any candidate's work is strictly prohibited.

*Please note re-assessments are permitted.

Appeals

To ensure a fair assessment procedure is carried out, the Candidate must be fully briefed on the assessment requirements and given instructions on their right to appeal an assessment decision. All Training Providers must have an up-to-date appeals procedure.

What Constitutes a Fail?

It is at the Tutor's professional discretion if they pass or fail the Candidate. It is recommended that all elements of each assessment criteria are met and that all knowledge activities are completed.

Examples of what may constitute a fail (theory)(list is not exhaustive):

- Plagiarism
- Irrelevant content
- Incomplete knowledge
- Incomplete coverage of an assessment criterion

Examples of what may constitute a fail (practical) (list is not exhaustive):

- Failure to address one or more of the assessment criteria
- Unsafe practice or behaviour

- Practice of behaviour that compromises animal welfare
- Failure to address key safety points and measures
- Poor standard of delivery
- Lack of appropriate equipment

When making an assessment decision it is important that all evidence and feedback is documented to support the assessment decision whether it is a pass or fail. If the decision is a fail, then the Candidate must be provided with support and the opportunity to re-sit the assessment once they are ready.

8. Offering the Qualification

Training Providers wishing to deliver this qualification will need to demonstrate the ability to adhere to quality assurance and assessment regulations.

All procedures for the use of this qualification or units of this qualification, including approval, registration of Candidates, quality assurance process and certification will be completed through iPET Network, who will have an allocated member of the Quality Team to support the Training Provider. Any queries or difficulties should be directed to the allocated Team member or if they are not available, via the iPET Network office on 0800 433 4700.

Approval to Offer the Qualification

Training Providers wishing to offer this qualification must note the requirements stipulated in Appendix A.

To offer this qualification, potential Training Providers must apply for Training Provider approval with iPET Network. Applications can be made via email info@ipetnetwork.co.uk or by calling 0800 433 4700.

In addition, to gain approval to offer the qualification, Training Providers must apply by submitting an iPET Network *Qualification Approval Form* which can be downloaded from the website.

For more information, visit our website www.ipetnetwork.co.uk.

Standardisation

Standardisation is a process that promotes consistency in the understanding and application of standards.

Standardisation:

- Establishes statements on the standard of evidence required to meet the assessment criteria for the units in iPET Network Qualifications
- Makes recommendations on assessment practice
- Produces advice and guidance for the assessment of units
- Identifies good practice in assessment.

It is a requirement of the Training Provider approval process that each Training Provider offering units from iPET Network qualifications must provide assessment materials and Candidate evidence for standardisation if requested.

iPET Network will notify Training Providers of the required sample(s) for standardisation purposes. Assessment materials, Candidate evidence and Tutor feedback must be sent to iPET Network by Training Providers.

Outcomes from standardisation will be available to Training Providers through iPET Network.

Support for Training Providers

iPET Network provides all Training Providers with on-going support and advice on the use of iPET Network units and qualifications, including the requirements for assessment.

If Training Providers who are approved to offer iPET Network units and qualifications have obtained a UKPRN (UK Provider Reference Number) from the UKRLP (UK Register of Learning Providers), this will be used as the Training Provider's reference number. If a Training Provider has not obtained a UKPRN they will be issued with a unique iPET Network Training Provider number.

Information about obtaining a Unique Learner Number (ULN) on behalf of the Candidates is included in the *iPET Network Training Provider Manual*.

Training Provider Responsibilities

Each Training Provider should identify a named contact person who will be responsible for any iPET Network provision within the Training Provider organisation.

The Training Provider contact must ensure all procedures relating to the delivery of the qualification operate effectively in the centre.

The Training Provider contact is the person responsible for confirming and ensuring that the Training Provider meets all the iPET Network requirements for Training Provider recognition.

The Training Provider contact is responsible for ensuring all relevant iPET Network documentation is distributed as required within the Training Provider and that the security requirements for external assessment are adhered to, where applicable.

9. Appendix A – Requirements to Offer This Qualification

To offer this qualification, Training Providers must ensure that Tutors involved in delivery and assessment are professionally competent to do so. This means Training Providers must ensure that Tutors have the following qualifications/experience:

1. Subject-specific Qualifications Tutors must possess the following:	AND/ OR	2. Relevant Experience Tutors must possess **both** of the following:	AND	3. Teaching Qualification Tutors must possess at least **one** of the following:
• Suitable subject related qualification(s) at Level 3 or above		• CV / career profile demonstrating relevant industry/subject-specific		• iPET Network Level 3 Award for Educators in

		skills, knowledge, experience and achievements. (This will be accepted at the discretion of the Awarding Organisation)		the Canine and Feline Sector • Level 3 Award in Education and Training; or • Level 4 Certificate in Education and Training; or • Level 3 or 4 PTLLS (or equivalent)

If no formal teaching qualification is held, it will be a requirement that a teaching qualification is achieved within 12 months of approval.

Evidence of qualifications and experience must be provided in the form of original certificates, detailed CV and employer references. iPET Network reserves the right to request additional information in support of Training Provider/Tutor applications e.g., client reviews.

Training Providers must also ensure that they have in place an Internal Quality Assurer who:

- Holds or is working towards a Level 4 Award in Internal Quality Assurance of Assessment Processes and Practices or its equivalent
- Has substantial experience of working in or assessing in dog behaviour and training
- Is familiar with the assessment requirements of the qualification for which they are the Internal Quality Assurer

Or,

Gold package registrations are used with iPET Network *(Refer to Training Provider Fees)*

10. Qualification Unit Breakdown and Assessor Guidance

Unit title:	Animal Health and Diseases
Level:	2
Credit value:	7
GLH:	60
TQT:	66
Unit code:	228
Unit reference number:	R/651/0435
Unit aim:	The aim of this unit is to provide an overall knowledge of the general health care required for a range of animals. It includes health checking, monitoring, grooming, diseases, and parasites. **Range of animals** Select 3 species from the following groups: • **Companion (dogs, cats, rabbits)** • **Horses** • **Farm livestock (sheep, pigs, cows)** • **Exotics (fish, birds, reptiles, amphibians, small mammals, invertebrates)**
Number of learning outcomes	10
Grading	Pass/Merit/Distinction/Not Achieved/Fail

Learning Outcome	Assessment Criteria Pass	Assessment Criteria Merit	Assessment Criteria Distinction
The learner will:	The learner can:		
1. Know the reasons for undertaking regular health checks and recording results	1.1. List the reasons why it is important to carry out regular health checks on animals	1.1. M Describe why it is important to carry out animal health checks on a regular basis	
	1.2. State how often routine health checks should be carried out		
	1.3. Identify methods of recording health checks		
2. Know the signs of normal and abnormal health in animals, how to conduct a health check and record the findings	2.1. Identify behavioural and functional signs of normal health		
	2.2. Identify behavioural and functional signs of abnormal health		
	2.3. Identify visual and physical signs of normal health		

	2.4. Identify visual and physical signs of abnormal health		
	2.5. Outline how to carry out a health check	2.5. M Describe how to safely and effectively carry out health checks on an animal	2.5 D Explain in detail how to carry out a full health check on an animal
3. Know why weight management is important for the health and welfare of animals	3.1. Identify why animal weight maintenance is important for its health and welfare	3.1. M Describe the importance of maintaining an animal's weight in relation to its health and wellbeing	
	3.2. Recognise the common causes of obesity in animals		
	3.3. Identify the units used for weighing and how to convert them		
	3.4. Outline the ideal weight ranges for a range of animals		
	3.5. Identify methods of gauging animal weights		
4. Know the normal vital rates for animals, what may cause variation and the equipment and methods used	4.1. Outline the normal vital rates for animals		
	4.2. Recognise possible reasons for abnormal vital rates		
	4.3. Identify basic equipment and methods used to take vital rates		
	4.4. Provide information on how to calculate vital rates		
5. Know why regular grooming, dental care and foot care are important for	5.1. Identify why regular grooming is important for animal health		

animal health and how they can be achieved	5.2. Identify basic grooming tools and their use		
	5.3. Identify why regular dental care is important for animal health		
	5.4. Outline methods of providing dental care		
	5.5. Recognise why regular foot care is important for animal health		
	5.6. Identify methods of providing foot care		
6. Know the common bacterial diseases for a range of animals, including their symptoms, treatment and prevention	6.1. Identify common bacterial, viral, and fungal diseases and identify if they are zoonotic or notifiable		
	6.2. Identify the symptoms of common bacterial, viral, and fungal diseases		
	6.3. Identify treatments for common bacterial, viral, and fungal diseases		
	6.4. Identify how to prevent common bacterial, viral, and fungal diseases		
	6.5. Outline methods used to prevent the spread of bacterial, viral and fungal diseases		6.5. D Explain in detail the measures which can be put in place to prevent the spread of diseases for an animal
7. Know the common metabolic diseases for a range of animals including their symptoms, treatment and prevention	7.1. List common metabolic diseases		
	7.2. Identify the symptoms of metabolic diseases		
	7.3. Identify the treatments of metabolic diseases		
	7.4. Identify how to prevent metabolic diseases		

8. Know the physical barriers and illness symptoms animals have to defend against diseases	8.1. Identify the physical barriers animals have to defend against disease		
	8.2. Outline the symptoms of illness and their role in dealing with pathogens		
9. Know what ectoparasites are and how to identify, treat and prevent them	9.1. Define the term 'ectoparasite'		
	9.2. Identify common ectoparasites		
	9.3. Outline the life cycles of common ectoparasites		
	9.4. Identify treatments for common ectoparasites and how they are administered	9.4. M Explain how an effective ectoparasite control program can be achieved for an animal	
10. Know what endoparasites are and how to identify, treat and prevent them	10.1. Define the term 'endoparasite'		
	10.2. Identify common endoparasites		
	10.3. Outline the life cycles of common endoparasites		
	10.4. Identify treatments for common endoparasites and how they are administered	10.4. M Explain how an effective endoparasite control program can be achieved for an animal	

Unit title:	**Animal Husbandry, Handling and Nutrition**
Level:	2
Credit value:	7
GLH:	60
TQT:	66
Unit code:	229
Unit reference number:	Y/651/0437
Unit aim:	The aim of this unit is to provide knowledge of the housing, handling, moving and feeding requirements when keeping animals. **Range of animals** **Select 3 species from the following groups:** • **Companion (dogs, cats, rabbits)** • **Horses** • **Farm livestock (sheep, pigs, cows)** • **Exotics (fish, birds, reptiles, amphibians, small mammals, invertebrates)**
Number of learning outcomes	9
Grading	**Pass/Merit/Distinction/Not Achieved/Fail**

Learning Outcomes	Assessment Criteria Pass	Assessment Criteria Merit	Assessment Criteria Distinction
The learner will:	The learner can:		
1. Know the accommodation requirements for animals and its importance for animal welfare	1.1. Identify the types of housing which can be used for animals		1.1. D Evaluate an animal's accommodation with regard to its type, size and construction
	1.2. State the environmental requirements for housing animals		
	1.3. State the equipment which can be used to create, maintain, and monitor the environmental requirements		1.3. D Evaluate an animal's accommodation as to how its environmental requirements are met
	1.4. Recognise the numbers and sexes of animals which can be housed individually or together		1.4. D Evaluate an animal's accommodation regarding the numbers and sexes of animals housed in it
	1.5. List types of bedding that can be used in animal accommodation		1.5. D Evaluate the substrates/ bedding materials in an

			animal's accommodation
	1.6. Outline the advantages and disadvantages of using different types of bedding		
	1.7. Indicate furnishings which can be used in animal accommodation		1.7. D Evaluate the furnishings in an animal's accommodation
	1.8. Recognise the advantages and disadvantages of using different furnishings		
	1.9. Describe why regular animal accommodation maintenance and security checks are important		
	1.10. Recognise why regular accommodation cleaning is important for animal welfare		
2. Understand the reasons for handling animals using the appropriate PPE, equipment and techniques	2.1. Identify reasons for handling animals		
	2.2. Describe the considerations which need to be taken before handling animals		
	2.3. Outline the PPE which can be used for handling animals		
	2.4. Explain why PPE is required for handling animals		
	2.5. Identify equipment which can be used to aid the handling of animals		
	2.6. Describe how to approach animals for capture		
	2.7. Describe the techniques which	2.7. M	

		can be used to handle / restrain animals	Explain how animal handling techniques differ with health life stages	
3.	**Know the points to consider and equipment which can be used for the safe transportation of animals**	3.1. Outline the points to consider for animal transportation		
		3.2. Identify the equipment which can be used for animal transportation		
4.	**Know the different types of feeder and their features**	4.1. Outline a variety of dietary types		
		4.2. Identify anatomical features for each dietary type		
5.	**Know the roles and main sources of nutrients required by animals including at different life stages and health status**	5.1. List the 6 major groups of nutrients		
		5.2. Outline the roles of each food group		
		5.3. Identify the main sources of nutrients		
		5.4. Recognise how nutrient requirements differ with the animal's life stage	5.4. M Explain why an animal's diet differs at each life stage	
		5.5. Outline how nutritional requirements differ with the animal's health status		5.5. D Explain in detail why the nutrient requirements differ for 3 examples of an animal's health status

6. Know the different diet types and how to store and prepare them	6.1. Identify the different diet types		
	6.2. Outline how to store each diet type		
	6.3. Outline how to prepare each diet type		
7. Know how to interpret information on animal feed labels	7.1. Identify appropriate diets for animal species, age, work, and health		
	7.2. Outline the contents of the foodstuff		
	7.3. Recognise the appropriate amount to feed and frequency		
8. Know the methods of feeding and the equipment used	8.1. Provide information on the feeding methods which can be used	8.1. M Explain how different feeding methods can be used as animal enrichment tools	
	8.2. Identify feeding equipment		
9. Know the requirements for the use of supplements in a diet	9.1. Identify supplements which can be used in animal diets		
	9.2. Recognise the reasons for supplementation use		

Unit title:	**Health, Safety and Hygiene**
Level:	**2**
Credit value:	**5**
GLH:	**30**
TQT:	**45**
Unit code:	**230**
Unit reference number:	**D/651/0439**
Unit aim:	**The aim of this unit is to provide knowledge of legislation, personal protective equipment (PPE), dress code, signs/symbols, risk assessments, procedures, effective handwashing, disinfection, sterilisation and waste disposal relevant to working in the animal industry.**
Number of learning outcomes	**9**
Grading	**Pass/Merit/Distinction/Not Achieved/Fail**

Learning Outcomes	Assessment Criteria
The learner will:	**The learner can:**
1. Know the legislation in the UK relating to health and safety	1.1. Identify the aims of the Health and Safety at Work Act
	1.2. State the employer and employee responsibilities under the Health and Safety at Work Act
	1.3. State the aims of the Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations (COSHH)
	1.4. State the key messages relating to COSHH in the animal industry
	1.5. State the aims of the Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations (RIDDOR)
	1.6. Identify the types of reportable incidents which come under RIDDOR
2. Know why it is important to wear appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) and adhere to a dress code when working with animals	2.1. Identify personal protective equipment (PPE) and dress codes required when working with a range of animals
	2.2. Describe the importance of PPE and dress codes when working with a range of animals
3. Know what the signs and symbols that may be found in the workplace mean	3.1. Identify the different types of signs and symbols
4. Know what risk assessments are, why they are important and how to use them	4.1. Identify what a risk assessment is
	4.2. Identify what a hazard and a risk are
5. Know the safety procedures which are required in the workplace	5.1. Identify the requirements and procedures for First aid in the workplace
	5.2. State the procedure in the event of a fire occurring in the workplace.
	5.3. Identify the different types of fire extinguisher

		5.4. Identify the types of fire each extinguisher can be used on
		5.5. Identify why using correct lifting techniques is important
		5.6. Identify how to lift items safely
6.	**Know why hand washing is important when working with animals, including the recommended techniques and products to use**	6.1. State why handwashing is important when working with animals
		6.2. Identify suitable products and the situations when they should be used
		6.3. Describe how to wash hands effectively
7.	**Know what disinfection is, suitable products, equipment and how to use them effectively**	7.1. State what disinfection is
		7.2. State why cleaning is required prior to disinfection.
		7.3. State the purpose of data sheets and product instructions
		7.4. Describe how to use disinfection equipment effectively
8.	**Know what sterilisation methods are used and how equipment is prepared and stored**	8.1. State what sterilisation is
		8.2. Describe circumstances when sterilisation is important when working with animals
		8.3. State the methods of sterilisation
		8.4. State the process of sterilisation
		8.5. Identify the preparation of equipment to undergo sterilisation and its storage
9.	**Know different types of waste and appropriate methods of disposal**	9.1. State different types of waste found in animal related workplaces
		9.2. Describe the different methods of waste disposal relating to working with animals

Unit title:	**Animal Welfare Legislation and Organisations**
Level:	2
Credit value:	4
GLH:	30
TQT:	36
Unit code:	231
Unit reference number:	J/651/0440
Unit aim:	**The aim of this unit is to provide the knowledge of legislation relevant to animal welfare, including transportation, animal establishments and veterinary surgery. This unit will also develop knowledge of animal related organisations and their aims.**
Number of learning outcomes	5
Grading	**Pass/Merit/Distinction/Not Achieved/Fail**

Learning Outcomes	Assessment Criteria Pass	Assessment Criteria Merit	Assessment Criteria Distinction
The learner will:	The learner can:		
1. **Know animal welfare legislation and the consequences of not adhering to it**	1.1. Identify the Animal Welfare Act and its aims		1.1. / 1.2. / 1.3. D Describe the importance of ensuring animal welfare is maintained at all times
	1.2. Outline the 5 needs in the Animal Welfare Act		
	1.3. State the possible penalties if the act is not adhered to		
2. **Know a range of animal establishments and the specific legislation which needs to be adhered to**	2.1. List a range animal establishments which require specific legislation to operate		
	2.2. Identify the legislation which is relevant to the establishments		2.2. D Outline the standards and requirements of legislation relevant to an animal establishment
3. **Know the legislation requirements for the safe transportation of a range of animals**	3.1. Identify legislation which relate to the transportation of animals over both short and long distances		
	3.2. Outline the key points of legislation surrounding the	3.2. M Explain how to safely transport an animal and	

		transportation of animals	the key considerations when doing so	
4.	**Know the relevant legislation relating to Veterinary aspects**	4.1. Identify Veterinary legislation		
		4.2. Outline the key points of Veterinary legislation	4.2. M Describe the potential consequences of not adhering to veterinary legislation	4.2. D Describe why it is important to ensure that veterinary legislation is adhered to
		4.3. Identify legislation relating to animal medications		
		4.4. Outline the key points of animal medication legislation	4.4. M List the different classification categories of veterinary medicines	4.4. D Outline who can prescribe the different classification categories of veterinary medicines
5.	**Know the legislation related to international animals**	5.1. Identify legislation which relates to international animal matters		
		5.2. Outline the key points of international animal legislation		
6.	**Know a range of animal welfare related organisations and their roles**	6.1. Identify a range of animal welfare related organisations		
		6.2. Outline the aims and roles of animal welfare related organisations		6.2. D Compare the aims, roles and responsibilities of two animal welfare organisations and their impact on animal welfare

Unit title:	**Preparation for Work**
Level:	2
Credit value:	2
GLH:	15
TQT:	21
Unit code:	232
Unit reference number:	K/651/0441
Unit aim:	**The aim of this unit is to have knowledge of jobs available in the land based (animal) sector, the responsibilities involved and the requirements. This unit also focuses on knowledge of the application and interview process, for successful employment opportunities.**
Number of learning outcomes	5
Grading	**Pass/Merit/Distinction/Not Achieved/Fail**

Learning Outcomes	Assessment Criteria Pass	Assessment Criteria Merit	Assessment Criteria Distinction
The learner will:	The learner can:		
1. Know a range of jobs in the Animal Care Sector and the roles, responsibilities, skills, qualities and qualifications required	1.1. Identify jobs in the Animal Care Sector		
	1.2. Outline the main roles and responsibilities for a range of jobs		
	1.3. Outline the qualifications which are required for a range of jobs		
	1.4. Outline information on the skills and qualities which are required for a range of jobs		
2. Know how to research the availability of jobs in the Animal Care Sector and the advertisement language used	2.1. Identify where job advertisements can be located		
	2.2. Outline the meaning of the words which are commonly used in job advertisements		
3. Know the requirements of and how to complete application forms	3.1. Outline the purpose of an application form		
	3.2. Identify where to locate application forms		

	3.3. Explain why it is important to complete the application form accurately		
4. Know what a curriculum vitae is, the information it includes and why it is important	4.1. Identify what a curriculum vitae (CV) is and why it is important		
	4.2. Outline the information which needs to be included in a curriculum vitae	4.2. M Produce a curriculum vitae (CV)	4.2. D Explain why it is important to keep a CV updated and containing relevant and accurate information
	4.3. Recognise suitable curriculum vitae formats		
5. Know why interviews are important in job recruitment and how to take part in an interview process	5.1. Outline the purpose of interviews		
	5.2. List how to prepare for an interview		5.2. D Describe why it is important to prepare for an interview and the benefits of doing so
	5.3. Explain what to bring and wear to an interview		5.3. D Describe the possible outcomes of not dressing suitably for an interview
	5.4. Suggest possible questions which may be asked during the interview process	5.4 M Explain how to behave in an interview setting	5.4. D Explain how to address the interviewer

Unit title:	**Practical Animal Skills**
Level:	2
Credit value:	7
GLH:	60
TQT:	70
Unit code:	233
Unit reference number:	L/651/0442
Unit aim:	The aim of this unit is to develop and demonstrate practical animal skills for a range of animals, to include working safely, setting up and maintaining animal accommodation, food selection and provision, handling, monitoring health and transporting. **Range of animals** **Select any 3 species from any of the following groups:** • **Companion (dogs, cats, rabbits)** • **Horses** • **Farm livestock (sheep, pigs, cows)** • **Exotics (fish, birds, reptiles, amphibians, small mammals, invertebrates)**
Number of learning outcomes	6
Grading	Pass/Merit/Distinction/Not Achieved/Fail

Learning Outcomes	Assessment Criteria Pass	Assessment Criteria Merit	Assessment Criteria Distinction
The learner will:	The learner can:		
1. Be able to undertake work with awareness of health, safety, and hygiene in the animal workplace	1.1. Demonstrate how to work safely in the workplace		1.1. D Produce detailed health and safety checks for a range of animal accommodation
2. Be able to set up and maintain animal accommodation	2.1. Demonstrate how to select appropriate accommodation		
	2.2. Demonstrate how to select appropriate substrates / bedding		
	2.3. Demonstrate how to set up animal accommodation		2.3. D Demonstrate confidently, with explanations, how to set up a range of animal accommodations

	2.4. Demonstrate how to maintain animal accommodation	2.4. M Demonstrate how to maintain a range of animal accommodation confidently	
	2.5. Carry out security checks on animal accommodation		
3. Be able to select, prepare, monitor and provide food to animals	3.1. Demonstrate how to select appropriate food for animals	3.1. M Select feed for a range of animals confidently	
	3.2. Prepare different types of food	3.2. M Prepare feed for a range of animals confidently	
	3.3. Carry out distributing food using appropriate equipment and methods	3.3. M Distribute feed to a range of animals confidently	
	3.4. Monitor food and water intake		
4. Be able to approach, capture, handle and restrain animals	4.1. Demonstrate appropriate techniques to approach and capture animals	4.1. M Approach and capture a range of animals confidently, using appropriate techniques and aids	
	4.2. Demonstrate appropriate techniques to handle and restrain animals	4.2. M Handle a range of animals confidently using appropriate techniques and aids	
5. Be able to monitor and maintain the health of animals	5.1. Conduct health checks on animals	5.1. M Carry out health checks on a range of animals confidently	
	5.2. Carry out routine grooming tasks on animals		
	5.3. Carry out routine treatments on animals		
	5.4. Carry out exercise for animals		

6. Be able to prepare and transport animals	6.1. Demonstrate how to select appropriate transportation equipment		
	6.2. Prepare transportation equipment		
	6.3. Demonstrate preparing animals for transportation		
	6.4. Demonstrate transporting animals over a short distance		

Assessment information

For guidance on assessment, including principles of assessment and methods which may be used, Training Providers should consult the 'Assessment' section of the iPET Network Qualification Handbook and relevant policies.

Sector Subject Area (SSA)	3.3
Date from which qualification will be available for learners	29/03/2024
Qualification review date	29/03/2027

11. Suggested Learning Resources

Qualification	Suggested learning resources
Level 2 Certificate in Animal Care	**Literature** **Animal Biology and Care.** Publisher: Wiley-Blackwell (2014) 3rd ed. ISBN-10: 111827606X. Dallas, S. and Jewell, E. GCSE Biology Books *Refer to individual Candidate Resource Handbooks for references and further resources*

12. Supporting Documents and General

The following documents contain essential information for Training Providers delivering iPET Network qualifications. They should be referred to in conjunction with this handbook. To download the documents and to find other useful documents, go to www.ipetnetwork.co.uk, the web portal or SharePoint.

iPET Network Training Provider Manual
iPET Network Quality Assurance Requirements
Malpractice and Maladministration Policy and Procedure (including Sanctions)

Document Control

Document Name: Level 2 Certificate in Animal Care - Qualification Specification

Document Number: Q163

Date of Correction	Version Number	Correction Reason
	1	