



1st4sport Level 3 Certificate in the Principles of Horse Care and Management

Qualification Specification





About Us

Welcome to 1st4sport, established in 2000, 1st4sport are an industry specialist recognised awarding organisation regulated in England by the Office of the Qualifications and Examinations Regulator (Ofqual), in Wales by Qualifications Wales, and in Northern Ireland by the Council for the Curriculum, Examination and Assessment (CCEA) Regulation.

Serving the needs of the sport, physical activity and active leisure industry; our niche status is emphasised through our accomplished people, network of esteemed industry partnerships and our culture of excellence. We have an outstanding reputation; evidenced though the loyalty we receive from our trusted partners, recognised centres and most importantly our learners.

We have a proven track record; offering of valid, value-added, educational solutions and services and outstanding customer care. Our offer includes sector specific qualifications and pathways, and a range of relevant high-performing educational services; underpinned by leading digital solutions. The majority of these are developed and deployed in partnership with governing bodies of sport and other sector specific professional organisations. More than any other awarding organisation, our knowledge of the industry and our continuous cross-sector network enables us to understand the direction of our sector.

Our involvement in shaping our sector has been significant and we continue to be the awarding organisation that partner and representative organisations turn to for guidance on the direction of travel, as appropriate to the needs of our partners, centres, industry employers and learners.

Our Mission: To deliver excellent educational solutions and value-added services to sport, physical activity and the active leisure industry.

Our Direction: We aim to support the ongoing professionalisation of our industry; supporting employment, growth, sustainability and success. We embrace performance, participation and health agendas. Our objective is to continue to support our respected partners, providers and learners.



Qualification Specification

Title:	1st4sport Level 3 Certificate in the Principles of Horse Care and Management
Qualification Overview:	Gives learners the knowledge, confidence, and skills to care for horses without constant supervision.
Qualification Code:	L3CPHMQ
Qualification Regulation Number:	601/4904/8
Guided Learning Hours (GLH):	156
Total Qualification Time (TQT):	204
Credit Value (if applicable):	18
Operational Start Date:	22/10/2014
Qualification Review Date:	31/10/2027
Learner Registration Period:	3 years
Qualification Objective:	This qualification qualifies learners to care for horses without constant supervision.
Qualification Purpose:	Develop knowledge and/or skills in a subject area.

Who is this qualification for?

This qualification is aimed at learners who want to work with horses and already have some knowledge of how to care for them.

Qualification Progression

Learners could progress on to the 1st4sport Level 3 Diploma in Work Based Racehorse Care and Management.

Achievement of this qualification will help learners to progress to the following job roles:

- Stable Staff/Groom
- Senior Stable Staff (Head Lad/Lass)

Entry Requirements

Learners must be a minimum of 16 years old at registration and 16 years old at certification.



Pre-requisite(s) or other entry requirements

The recognised centre is required to conduct an initial assessment of learners to ensure that pre-requisites to registration and certification and any barriers that may disadvantage a learner under the Equality Act 2010 are considered and outcomes recorded during the application process.

Prior to registration learners are required to:

- be accurately identified
- be at least 16 years of age
- be able to undertake this assessment in English or Welsh (if available)

Assessment Methods

The assessment methods used in this qualification are:

- Multiple Choice Examination (in 6 of 6 mandatory units)

Reasonable adjustments can be applied to these assessments in line with 1st4sport Policy Statement: Access Arrangments.

Grading Methods

This qualification will be graded Pass / Fail.



Qualification Structure

Learners must successfully complete all mandatory units to achieve this qualification.

Mandatory Units		
Unit ID	Unit Title	GLH
J/602/5253	Principles of employment rights and responsibilities in the land based industries	15
L/602/4590	Principles of health and safety in the horse industry	26
F/602/4635	Principles of routine horse care	30
J/602/4636	Principles of horse health and welfare	36
R/602/4638	Principles of training and preparing horses for work	30
J/602/5320	Principles of transporting horses	30

Optional Units

There are no optional units in this qualification

Pathway Units (where applicable)

There are no pathway units in this qualification

Unit Title	Principles of employment rights and responsibilities in the land based industries
Unit Aim	This unit aims to develop the learners knowledge of the principles of employment rights and responsibilities in the land based industries.
Unique Unit Number	J/602/5253
Unit Assessment Method(s)	Multiple Choice Examination
Assessment Specification	This unit is assessed through an external exam.



Learning Outcome: 1. Employers' and employees' statutory rights and responsibilities under Employment Law	
Assessment Criteria The learner can:	Indicative Delivery Content
Disability Discrimination ActOther Equalities LegislationHealth and Safety	

Learning Outcome: 2. Documentation required within the workplace which recognise and protect the relationship between an employee and employer	
Assessment Criteria The learner can:	Indicative Delivery Content
2.1	
Health and safetyEquality and Diversity	

Learning Outcome: 3. Employment rights and responsibilities	
Assessment Criteria The learner can:	Indicative Delivery Content
3.1	
Access to workAdditional learning support	

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Unit Title	Principles of health and safety in the horse industry
Unit Aim	This unit aims to develop the learners knowledge of the principles of health and safety in the horse industry.
Unique Unit Number	L/602/4590
Unit Assessment Method(s)	Multiple Choice Examination
Assessment Specification	This unit is assessed through an external exam.

Learning Outcome: 1. Safety procedures	
Assessment Criteria The learner can:	Indicative Delivery Content
 Correct handling of horses Correct handling of equipment Correct use and storage of tools and equipment 	



Unit Title	Principles of routine horse care
Unit Aim	The aim of this unit is about managing and supervising routine horse care. It requires knowledge of feeding, maintenance of stocks of feed, equipment and implementation of feeding regimes. The learner will be able to supervise staff and yard routines and promote health and safety in the workplace.
Unique Unit Number	F/602/4635
Unit Assessment Method(s)	Multiple Choice Examination
Assessment Specification	There are no additional assessment requirements.

Learning Outcome: 1. know how to manage the general care and requirements of working horses and breeding stock	
Assessment Criteria The learner can:	Indicative Delivery Content
1.1 explain how to plan diets for horses	
1.2 explain how to implement feeding regimes	
1.3 explain the nutritional requirements of horses	
1.4 explain how to purchase and maintain stocks of stable equipment and bedding	

Learning Outcome: 2. know how to manage and supervise staff and stable routines	
Assessment Criteria The learner can:	Indicative Delivery Content
2.1 explain the procedures for the supervision of staff and organisation of yard routines	



Learning Outcome: 3. know how to promote health and safety in an equestrian workplace	
Assessment Criteria The learner can:	Indicative Delivery Content
3.1 describe how to work and supervise others in a way that promotes health and safety and adhere to the appropriate legislation	



Unit Title	Principles of horse health and welfare
Unit Aim	The aim of this unit is about managing the health care for horses and dealing with sick horses. It requires knowledge of the physical condition and behaviour of horses, first aid procedures and basic health care treatments. The learner will know the basic conformation and anatomy of the horse, abnormal signs of health and procedures for isolation and sick nursing.
Unique Unit Number	J/602/4636
Unit Assessment Method(s)	Multiple Choice Examination
Assessment Specification	There are no additional assessment requirements.

Learning Outcome: 1. know how to recognise a horse in good health and a horse showing abnormal signs of health

of health	
Assessment Criteria The learner can:	Indicative Delivery Content
1.1 describe the physical condition and behaviour of a horse in good health	
1.2 explain how to recognise abnormal signs of health in a horse	
1.3 describe the basic conformation and anatomy of a horse	



Learning Outcome: 2. know how to care for a horse showing abnormal signs of health	
Assessment Criteria The learner can:	Indicative Delivery Content
2.1 describe first aid procedures when dealing with a sick or injured horse	
2.2 explain how to administer basic health care treatments	
2.3 explain the procedures for isolation and sick nursing	

Learning Outcome: 3. know how to promote health and safety in an equestrian workplace	
Assessment Criteria The learner can:	Indicative Delivery Content
3.1 describe how to administer health care treatments in a way that promotes health and safety and adheres to the appropriate legislation	



Unit Title	Principles of training and preparing horses for work
Unit Aim	The aim of this unit is about training young horses and preparing them for work. It requires knowledge of the early education, training and breaking processes. The learner will know the procedures for clipping, trimming, plaiting and tacking up for specialist work.
Unique Unit Number	R/602/4638
Unit Assessment Method(s)	Multiple Choice Examination
Assessment Specification	There are no additional assessment requirements.

Learning Outcome: 1. know how to assist with training the young horse	
Assessment Criteria The learner can:	Indicative Delivery Content
1.1 explain how to introduce good stable manners to a young horse	
1.2 explain the processes of early education and training of the young horse	
1.3 explain how to lunge and long rein a horse as part of the breaking process	
1.4 explain how to back a young horse safely and effectively	



Learning Outcome: 2. know how to clip, trim and plait horses to improve appearance		
Assessment Criteria The learner can:	Indicative Delivery Content	
2.1 explain the procedures for clipping		
2.2 explain how to trim a mane and/or tail		
2.3 explain how and when to plait a mane		

Learning Outcome: 3. know to tack a horse up for specialist work	
Assessment Criteria The learner can:	Indicative Delivery Content
3.1 explain the correct fitting and use a specialist tack	

Learning Outcome: 4. know how to promote health and safety when training horses and preparing them for work	
Assessment Criteria The learner can:	Indicative Delivery Content
4.1 describe how to work and supervise others in a way that promotes health and safety and adhere to the appropriate legislation	



Unit Title	Principles of transporting horses	
Unit Aim	The aim of this unit is about travelling horses. It requires knowledge of preparation of horse and vehicle for transport and how to organise and plan transport arrangements. The learner will know how to load and unload horses and care for horses during a journey.	
Unique Unit Number	J/602/5320	
Unit Assessment Method(s)	Multiple Choice Examination	
Assessment Specification	Arrangements to include: Journey details Contact information Timetables Care to include: Checks Feeding Water Potential problem This is a knowledge only based unit.	

Learning Outcome: 1. know how to prepare a horse and vehicle for travelling	
Assessment Criteria The learner can:	Indicative Delivery Content
1.1 explain how to prepare a horse and vehicle for a journey	
1.2 explain how to prepare a horse and vehicle for a journey	

Learning Outcome: 2. know how to load and unload horses	
Assessment Criteria The learner can:	Indicative Delivery Content
2.1 explain the procedures for loading and unloading horses	

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Learning Outcome: 3. know how to care for a horse during transport	
Assessment Criteria The learner can:	Indicative Delivery Content
3.1 explain how to care for a horse during transport	

Learning Outcome: 4. know how to promote health and safety when travelling horses	
Assessment Criteria The learner can:	Indicative Delivery Content
4.1 describe how to transport horses in a way that promotes health and safety and adheres to the appropriate legislation	

31/03/2025



Qualification Conditions: Delivery and assessment requirements

To complete the delivery, assessment, and internal quality assurance of the qualification, providers will be required to adhere to the guidance set out in the Recognised Centre Handbook.

The recognised centre is required to ensure that the learners who are unsuccessful in any aspect of assessment are offered two opportunities to re-sit or resubmit the appropriate assessment component within their registration period.

Qualification Approval Conditions: Workforce requirements

In addition to the workforce requirements stated in the Recognised Centre Handbook, the following qualification specific requirements must be met and evidenced.

Tutor(s):

For this qualification, the minimum requirements stated in the centre handbook do not apply. Centres must ensure that all workforce meet the requirements stated below.

The recognised centre is required to recruit and deploy a minimum of one BHA-approved tutor who is required to:

- have up-to-date technical and occupational competence in basic horse care eg. working directly with horses
- be deemed more occupationally competent than the learner(s) they tutor

Tutorrs must attend an induction into the qualification before they can tutor it. It is expected that the recognised centre will provide this training.

Tutors must declare any conflict of interest they may have at a centre to allow this to be appropriately managed.

Assessor(s):

For this qualification, the minimum requirements stated in the centre handbook do not apply. Centres must ensure that all workforce meet the requirements stated below.

The recognised centre is required to recruit and deploy a minimum of one BHA-approved assessor who is required to:

- have up-to-date technical and occupational competence in basic horse care eg. working directly with horses
- be deemed more occupationally competent than the learner(s) they assess

Assessors must attend an induction into the qualification before they can assess it. It is expected that the recognised centre will provide this training.

Assessors must declare any conflict of interest they may have at a centre to allow this to be appropriately managed.

Internal Verifier(s) and Quality Assurer(s):



For this qualification, the minimum requirements stated in the centre handbook do not apply. Centres must ensure that all workforce meet the requirements stated below.

The recognised centre is required to recruit and deploy a minimum of one BHA-approved internal verifier who is required to:

- have up-to-date occupational competence in basic horse care eg, working directly with horses
- be deemed more occupationally competent than the learner(s) they are quality assuring

Internal verifiers must attend an induction into the qualification before they can quality assure it. It is expected that the recognised centre will provide this training.

Additional Qualification Requirements

The minimum venue, facility and requirements stated in the centre handbook apply.

In addition further qualification specific requirements are: The recognised centre is required to have one or more delivery sites which contain facilities to support the programme of learning and assessment. These must comply with Health and Safety in the Racing and Breeding Industry and have in place appropriate access arrangements. All training and/or assessment sites must include the following facilities:

- A practical space to be used for learning and assessment activities
- A theory space which may include a classroom. This must contain multimedia facilities such as data projector and laptop, flip chart and pens.

The recognised centre is required to have equipment in place to facilitate the full programme of assessment which must comply with The Health and Safety at Work Act (1974) and other directives.

This qualification is regulated by Ofqual (601/4904/8), CCEA and QiW (C00/0684/8 - Designated).



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