



Skills England

Draft Preview

DRAFT APPRENTICESHIP ASSESSMENT PLAN FOR THE ANIMAL CARE AND WELFARE ASSISTANT APPRENTICESHIP

ST0397/V2

APPRENTICESHIP REFERENCE NUMBER	LEVEL OF THIS APPRENTICESHIP	INTEGRATION
ST0397	2	None

Assessment Plan

Assessment details

Introduction

This apprenticeship assessment plan (AAP) sets out the requirements for the assessment of the level 2 animal care and welfare assistant apprenticeship. It should be read in conjunction with the Requirements for Apprenticeship Assessment. Where there is conflict between this AAP and the Requirements for Apprenticeship Assessment, this AAP takes precedence. Assessment organisations must also comply with the relevant regulatory framework for apprenticeship assessment.

It is important that the assessment of apprentices is proportionate, valid, and provides reliable evidence of an apprentice's attainment of the relevant knowledge and skills. As such, assessment organisations must design assessments to ensure:

- employers have confidence that the apprentice has reached the expected performance standard
- apprentices are sufficiently secure in their knowledge and skills, so that they could demonstrate their competence in different contexts, for example, a different workplace

Assessment Outcomes

The assessment outcomes group and summarise the knowledge and skills that must be demonstrated in assessments.

Assessment organisations must ensure all the core assessment outcomes and the assessment outcomes for one of the following options are assessed for each apprentice:

- Option 1: animal welfare assistant
- Option 2: dog handler

Table 1: Assessment outcomes

Table 1 sets out the assessment outcomes and the mapped knowledge and skill statements.

All assessment outcomes must be assessed. Knowledge and skills statements listed in the mandatory statements column must be assessed in every version of the assessment that is made available.

Knowledge and skills statements that offer opportunities to develop functional English and maths are identified with an asterisk.

Core Assessment Outcome	Mapped statements	Mandatory statements
AO1: Individual animal care and welfare Applies individual care plans to support animal welfare needs. Selects and provides nutrition, accommodation, exercise, enrichment and socialisation for animals.	K1*, K2*, K3*, K4, K5*, K12, K13* S1*, S2*, S3*, S4, S5, S10*, S11	K1 S1, S2, S3, S4, S5, S10, S11
AO2: Animal health, behaviour and handling Observes behaviour, health and welfare, and maintains records to inform handling and care activities. Supports animal health and welfare through preventative healthcare activities.	K6, K7, K8, K9, K10, K11, K14*, K16, K17 S6, S7, S8*, S9, S12*, S14*	K7, K9, K10, K11, K16, K17 S6, S8, S9, S12
AO3: Animal environment, biosecurity and safe working Maintains biosecurity through hygiene, waste management and maintenance activities. Applies procedures that support the health and safety of animals and people.	K15*, K19* S13*, S17	K15, K19 S13, S17
AO4: Professional practice and communication Applies legal, ethical and organisational requirements when caring for animals. Operates within the limits of professional responsibility and communicates with others.	K18*, K20, K21*, K22* S15, S16*, S18*	K18 S15, S16
Option 1: animal welfare assistant	Mapped statements	Mandatory statements
AO5: Stakeholder engagement and animal welfare support Communicates with stakeholders. Provides guidance within professional and legal boundaries, maintains confidentiality, and works with others to support animal welfare.	K23*, K24*, K25* S19*, S20*, S21*	K24, K25 S20, S21
Option 2: dog handler	Mapped statements	Mandatory statements
AO6: Working dog operations and performance	K26, K27*, K28*	K26, K27

Operates as part of a dog-handler team and responds to factors that affect performance when handling and managing the dog. Supports and maintains the operational capability of working dogs through training activities.	S22, S23*, S24*	S22, S23
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Assessment requirements

Assessment organisations must set apprenticeship assessments. Assessment organisations should consider how technology and digital tools can support innovation and efficiency.

Assessment organisations must design apprenticeship assessments to include at least one **observation**.

Any additional assessment, or assessments, must be selected from the following list of methods, to ensure the assessment outcomes are met in full. Assessments available in the list may be used more than once:

- **additional observation**
- **simulation**
- **interview**
- **question and answer**
- **portfolio**
- **written assessment**

Apprentices may be assessed at any appropriate point during their apprenticeship programme.

Assessments may be designed to allow a centre or training provider to mark assessments. The assessment organisation is responsible for ensuring all assessments are sufficiently reliable and valid, and for the accuracy of any centre or training provider marking.

Performance descriptors

Performance descriptors describe the level of performance required to achieve a pass or distinction grade.

Table 2: performance descriptors

Table 2 sets out the performance descriptor categories and descriptors for pass and distinction. Assessment organisations must design assessments that align with these descriptions.

Performance Category	Pass	Distinction
Applied Knowledge	Applies knowledge, facts, procedures and ideas of animal care and welfare, appropriately in a significant range of varied work activities and contexts, some of which are complex or non-routine.	Applies knowledge, facts, procedures and ideas of animal care and welfare, with consistently high accuracy, insights or efficiency in a significant range of varied work activities and contexts, some of which are complex or non-routine.
Applied Skills	Selects and applies practical animal care and welfare skills consistently in a significant range of varied work activities and contexts, some of which are complex or non-routine. Solves straight-forward, well-defined underkeeping problems, to an acceptable standard.	Integrates practical animal care and welfare skills with precision in a significant range of varied work activities and contexts, some of which are complex or non-routine. Solves straight-forward, well-defined underkeeping problems, that add value.
Regulatory and Procedural Awareness	Gathers and interprets animal welfare, health and safety, legal and regulatory requirements relevant to the role, with minimal noncritical errors, although depth of insight or adaptability may be limited.	Applies interpretation of animal welfare, health and safety, legal and regulatory requirements relevant to the role, with minimal noncritical errors and with reasonable depth of insight or adaptability.
Communication and Collaboration	Communicates and collaborates effectively within a team or group setting, delivering reliable service delivery.	Communicates with clarity and sensitivity, within a team or group setting, delivering a courteous service delivery.

Information Use and Decision Making	Gathers and interprets animal care and welfare information relevant to the role, informing decisions and actions that are fit for purpose in the work context.	Applies interpretation of animal care and welfare information and feedback relevant to the role, shaping actions that add value.
Responsibility and Autonomy	Takes responsibility for completing animal care and welfare tasks and procedures. Exercises autonomy and judgement subject to overall direction or guidance. May collaborate with others perhaps through a work group or team.	Exercises informed judgement and self-direction when taking responsibility for completing animal care and welfare tasks and procedures, anticipating the needs of the task or team.

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