



Draft Preview

DRAFT APPRENTICESHIP ASSESSMENT PLAN FOR THE HORTICULTURE OR LANDSCAPE CONSTRUCTION OPERATIVE APPRENTICESHIP

ST0225/V2

APPRENTICESHIP REFERENCE NUMBER	LEVEL OF THIS APPRENTICESHIP	INTEGRATION
ST0225	2	None

Assessment Plan

Assessment details

Introduction

This Apprenticeship Assessment Plan (AAP) sets out the requirements for the assessment of the Level 2 horticulture or landscape construction operative apprenticeship. It should be read in conjunction with the General Requirements for Apprenticeship Assessment. Where there is conflict between this AAP and the General Requirements, 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. All assessment outcomes must be assessed.

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

- Option1: Landscape construction operative
- Option 2: Horticulture operative

Knowledge and skills statements in **bold** are mandatory and must be assessed in every version of the assessment that is made available.

Assessment Outcome	Mapping
<p>AO1: Health, safety and environmental compliance</p> <p>Applies health and safety procedures and environmental protection measures in line with legislation, site context, and organisational policies. Identifies and responds to risks, hazards, and compliance requirements in horticultural environments.</p>	<p>K1*, K2*, K3, K4</p> <p>S1*, S2*</p>
<p>AO2: Biosecurity and controls</p> <p>Applies biosecurity procedures and controls to manage plant pests, pathogens, and invasive species on site. Recognises and reports signs of harmful organisms to ensure compliance with legal obligations and maintain site integrity.</p>	<p>K9, K10*, K11, K12*</p> <p>S6, S7*</p>
<p>AO3: Communication and business practice</p> <p>Communicates with colleagues, clients, and the public using technical or non-technical language and digital tools. Contributes to business operations through awareness of organisational values, customer care, record-keeping, and project objectives.</p>	<p>K6*, K7*, K23*, K24</p> <p>S4*, S16</p>
<p>AO4: Plant and soil science</p> <p>Identifies plants using scientific names and uses knowledge of plant biology, soil science, and environmental conditions when applying techniques to support healthy soil, plant growth and development.</p>	<p>K8*, K13, K14, K15, K16*</p> <p>S5*, S8, S9</p>
<p>AO5: Site operations in horticulture and landscape maintenance</p> <p>Carries out site-based horticultural and landscape operations including the safe use of tools and machinery, vegetation clearance, and the maintenance of soft and hard landscape features. Applies practical techniques for planting, pruning, and turf care to meet site-specific requirements and quality standards.</p>	<p>K5*, K17, K18, K19, K20, K21, K22*</p> <p>S3*, S10, S11, S12, S13, S14, S15</p>
Option 1: Landscape construction operative	Mapping
<p>AO6: Site preparation and setting out</p> <p>Prepares sites for landscape construction by identifying hazards, measuring, and setting out in accordance with</p>	<p>K32*</p> <p>S24*</p>

plans and site levels.

AO7: Landscape construction features

Installs landscape features (and repairs as required) including paving, vertical and horizontal structures, and drainage systems. Selects and uses materials and tools to meet design, environmental, and durability requirements.

K33, **K34**, K35, K36*, K37, **K38***, K39*

S25, S26, **S27***, **S28**, S29*, S30*

Option 2: Horticulture operative

Mapping

AO8: Planting, soft landscape maintenance and plant health

Propagates, selects, plants, and maintains a range of horticultural plants and soft landscape features. Monitors and controls plant health, propagate plants and applies seasonal techniques to meet site and client needs.

K25, **K28**, K29, **K30**, K31

S17, **S19**, **S20**, S21*, S22, **S23**

AO9: Turf aftercare and maintenance

Maintains and monitors ornamental turf and species-rich meadows, providing aftercare through irrigation, protection, and health checks to meet quality standards and site requirements.

K26, K27*

S18*

(*) Knowledge and skills statements which offer opportunities to develop functional English and maths are identified with an asterisk.

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(s) must be selected from the following list of methods to ensure the assessment outcomes are met in full:

- additional observation
- professional discussion
- question and answer
- portfolio
- written test

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. Assessment organisations must design assessments that align with these descriptions.

Performance Category	Pass	Distinction
Applied Knowledge	Demonstrates appropriate application of knowledge, facts, procedures, and ideas to complete well-defined horticulture and or landscape tasks and solve straightforward problems across routine and some varied work activities in familiar situations .	Demonstrates highly accurate, insightful, efficient application of knowledge, facts, procedures, and ideas to solve straightforward problems and adapt effectively to well-defined horticulture and or landscape tasks across routine and some varied work activities , sustaining efficiency and clarity in familiar situations .
Applied Skills	Selects and uses cognitive and practical horticulture and or landscape skills to carry out mostly routine tasks with consistency and purpose , following instructions and sequencing steps reliably in familiar situations , as required.	Integrates cognitive and practical horticulture and or landscape skills to execute mostly routine tasks with precision, even when faced with subtle complexities or shifting requirements, coordinating steps efficiently and sustaining quality across familiar situations .
Regulatory and Procedural Awareness	Applies health, safety, environmental, and biosecurity legislation, regulations, and guidance relevant to the role, without error, although depth of insight may be limited , following organisational procedures in familiar situations and site rules consistently.	Demonstrates proactive and confident interpretation of health, safety, environmental, and biosecurity legislation, regulations, and guidance, aligning procedures with task needs and anticipating routine compliance requirements in familiar horticulture and or landscape contexts.

Communication and Collaboration	Communicates and collaborates effectively within a team or group setting, showing reliable customer service and teamwork skills when required, using technical or non-technical language and digital tools appropriately to support routine and some varied work activities .	Consistently communicates with clarity and sensitivity , showing strong awareness of others and responding resourcefully in a range of team and customer service scenarios, adapting language and digital tools efficiently to support well-defined tasks and straightforward problems .
Information Use and Decision Making	Gathers and interprets relevant information to inform decisions and actions that are fit for purpose in the work context, checking understanding and selecting suitable approaches to straightforward problems in familiar situations .	Gathers and interprets relevant information and feedback to shape actions that are purposeful , and show clear added value in terms of efficiency or outcomes , adapting promptly to straightforward problems within well-defined tasks and familiar situations .
Responsibility and Autonomy	Takes responsibility for completing horticulture and or landscape tasks , demonstrating autonomy within familiar situations , seeking guidance appropriately and following agreed plans to meet expected quality and time requirements as directed .	Exercises informed judgement and self-direction , often anticipating the needs of the task or team, maintaining efficiency and quality while working to agreed plans with minimal oversight and guidance from others .

Additional qualification

The qualifications detailed in the occupational standard must be completed before the end of the apprenticeship.

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