



Qualification Specification for:

OCN NI Level 2 Diploma in Animal Care

➤ **Qualification No: 610/1244/0**

Qualification Regulation Information

Qualification Title: **OCN NI Level 2 Diploma in Animal Care**

Qualification Number: **610/1244/0**

Operational start date: 01 August 2022

Operational end date: 31 July 2027

Certification end date: 31 July 2029

Qualification operational start and end dates indicate the lifecycle of a regulated qualification. The operational end date is the last date by which learners can be registered on a qualification. Learners have up to the certificate end date to complete the qualification and claim their certificate.

All OCN NI regulated qualifications are published to the Register of Regulated Qualifications (<http://register.ofqual.gov.uk/>). This site shows the qualifications and awarding organisations regulated by CCEA Regulation and Ofqual.

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Foreword

This document explains OCN NI's requirements for the delivery and assessment of the following regulated qualification:

➤ **OCN NI Level 2 Diploma in Animal Care**

This specification sets out:

- Qualification features
- Centre requirements for delivering and assessing the qualification
- The structure and content of the qualification
- Assessment requirements for the qualification
- OCN NI's quality assurance arrangements for the qualification
- Administration

OCN NI will notify centres in writing of any major changes to this specification. We will also publish changes on our website at www.ocni.org.uk

This specification is provided online, so the version available on our website is the most up to date publication. It is important to note that copies of the specification that have been downloaded and printed may be different from this authoritative online version.

Contents

Foreword	3
Contents	4
About Regulation	5
Qualification Summary	6
Sector Subject Area	6
National Occupational Standards	6
Qualification Aim	6
Qualification Objectives	6
Qualification Target Group	7
Entry Requirements	7
Progression	7
Qualification Support	7
Delivery Languages	7
Centre Requirements for Delivering the Qualification	8
Centre Recognition and Qualification Approval	8
Centre Staffing	8
Assessors	8
Internal Verification	9
Structure and Content	10
Unit Grading Structure	11
Qualification Grading Structure	11
Rationale for Grading Across the Units	12
Units	15
Quality Assurance of Centre Performance	31
Administration	32
Registration	32
Certification	32
Charges	32
Equality, Fairness and Inclusion	32
Retention of Evidence	32

About Regulation

OCN NI

Open College Network Northern Ireland (OCN NI) is a regulated Awarding Organisation based in Northern Ireland. OCN NI is regulated by CCEA Regulation to develop and award professional and technical (vocational) qualifications from Entry Level up to and including Level 5 across all sector areas. In addition, OCN NI is regulated by Ofqual to award similar qualification types in England.

The Regulated Qualifications Framework: an overview

The Regulated Qualifications Framework (RQF) was introduced on 1st October 2015: the RQF provides a single framework for all regulated qualifications.

Qualification Level

The level indicates the difficulty and complexity of the knowledge and skills associated with any qualification. There are eight levels (Levels 1-8) supported by three 'entry' levels (Entry 1-3).

Qualification Size

Size refers to the estimated total amount of time it could typically take to study and be assessed for a qualification. Size is expressed in terms of Total Qualification Time (TQT), and the part of that time typically spent being taught or supervised, rather than studying alone, is known as Guided Learning Hours (GLH).

Qualification Summary

Sector Subject Area

3.3 Animal care and veterinary science

National Occupational Standards

This qualification has been referenced to the following National Occupational Standards:

[Lantra - Animal Care](#)

LANANC37 - [Plan and monitor animal diets - National Occupational Standards \(ukstandards.org.uk\)](#)

LANANC41 - [Investigate animal related incidents \(ukstandards.org.uk\)](#)

LANANC56 - [Provide and manage accommodation for animal boarding services - National Occupational Standards \(ukstandards.org.uk\)](#)

LANANC51 - [Plan and monitor the establishment and management of animal populations - National Occupational Standards \(ukstandards.org.uk\)](#)

LANANC42 - [Evaluate information pertinent to animal related incidents \(ukstandards.org.uk\)](#)

LANANC30 - [Provide and manage accommodation for animals - National Occupational Standards \(ukstandards.org.uk\)](#)

Qualification Aim

The aim of the OCN NI Level 2 Diploma in Animal Care qualification is to develop a broad base of animal care skills and techniques.

Qualification Objectives

The objectives of the OCN NI Level 2 Diploma in Animal Care are to enable learners to gain the skills and knowledge relating to the following:

- animal health
- animal biology
- animal welfare and ethics
- animal behaviour assessment and safe handling
- animal husbandry
- animal care

Qualification Target Group

The OCN NI Level 2 Diploma in Animal Care is targeted at learners who wish to gain employment within the animal care sector or progress to further studies in animal management.

Entry Requirements

Learners must be at least 16 years old and have or working towards:

- minimum GCSE grade D in English
- minimum GCSE grade D in mathematics
- and two other GCSEs grade F or above or equivalent qualification level

In addition, if the qualification is taken as part of a programme, for those learners who do not already have the above qualifications, they will be given the opportunity to obtain either:

- GCSE Maths and English at Grade C or above, or
- Essential Skills Level 2 Communication and Essential Skills Level 2 Application of Number

Progression

The OCN NI Level 2 Diploma in Animal Care will enable learners to progress to higher level qualifications including relevant Level 3 Apprenticeships or into employment.

Qualification Support

A Qualification Support pack is available for OCN NI centres within the login area of the OCN NI website (<https://www.ocnni.org.uk/my-account/>), which includes additional support for teachers, eg planning and assessment templates, guides to best practice, etc.

Delivery Languages

This qualification is available in English only at this time. If you wish to offer this qualification in Welsh or Irish (Gaeilge) then please contact OCN NI who will review demand and provide as appropriate.

Centre Requirements for Delivering the Qualification

Centre Recognition and Qualification Approval

New and existing OCN NI recognised centres must apply for and be granted approval to deliver the qualification prior to the commencement of delivery.

Centre Staffing

Centres are required to have the following roles in place as a minimum, although a member of staff may hold more than one role*:

- Centre contact
- Programme Co-ordinator
- Tutor
- Assessor
- Internal Verifier

*Note: A person cannot be an internal verifier for their own assessments.

Tutors

Tutors delivering the qualification should be occupationally competent, qualified to at least one level higher than the qualification and have a minimum of three years' relevant experience in the animal care sector.

Assessors

The qualification is assessed within the centre and are subject to OCN NI's quality assurance processes. Units are achieved as outlined within each unit's Assessment Requirements and Assessment Guidance.

Assessors must:

- be occupationally competent, qualified to at least one level higher than the qualification and have a minimum of three years' relevant experience in the animal care sector
- have direct or related relevant experience in assessment
- assess all assessment tasks and activities

Internal Verification

OCN NI qualifications must be scrutinised through the centre's internal quality assurance processes as part of the recognised centre agreement with OCN NI. The centre must appoint an experienced and trained centre internal verifier whose responsibility is to act as the internal quality monitor for the verification of the delivery and assessment of the qualifications.

Internal Verifiers must:

- have at least three years' occupational experience in the area they are internally verifying
- attend OCN NI's internal verifier training if not already completed

Internal verifiers are required to:

- support tutors and assessors
- sample assessments according to the centre's sampling strategy
- ensure tasks are appropriate to the level being assessed
- maintain up-to-date records supporting the verification of assessment and learner achievement

Structure and Content

OCN NI Level 2 Diploma in Animal Care

Total Qualification Time (TQT) for this qualification: 470 hours
 Minimum Guided Learning Hours (GLH) for this qualification: 390 hours

Learners must successfully complete all mandatory units to achieve the L2 Diploma in Animal Care – 47 credits.

Unit Reference Number	OCN NI Unit Code	Unit Title	TQT	Credit Value	GLH	Level
<i>Mandatory units</i>						
K/650/3459	CBF854	Animal Health	70	7	60	Two
R/650/3460	CBF855	Introduction to Animal Biology	110	11	90	Two
T/650/3461	CBF861	Animal Welfare and Ethics	70	7	60	Two
Y/650/3462	CBF857	Animal Behaviour Assessment and Safe Handling	70	7	60	Two
A/650/3463	CBF858	Animal Husbandry	70	7	60	Two
D/650/3464	CBF859	Animal Care Industry Employment	40	4	30	Two
F/650/3465	CBF860	Practical Animal Care Project	40	4	30	Two

Unit Grading Structure

Each unit will be graded as Pass/Merit/Distinction/Fail. All units are internally assessed within this qualification, and each unit has specified assessment criteria at the Pass, Merit and Distinction unit grades.

Unit grading matrix

Unit grading matrix

- A learner will be considered to have failed a unit if they do not achieve all the pass assessment criteria in that unit
- To achieve a pass in a unit the learner must have successfully completed all the pass assessment criteria in that unit
- To achieve a merit in a unit the learner must have successfully completed all the pass and merit criteria in that unit
- To achieve a distinction in a unit the learner must have successfully completed all the pass, merit and distinction criteria in that unit

Qualification Grading Structure

The Level 2 Diploma will be graded overall as follows:

- Fail
- Pass
- Merit
- Distinction

Rationale for Grading Across the Units

Learners who have not achieved a pass in all of the required units for the qualification will be considered to have failed.

Learners achieving a pass should have a sound knowledge and understanding of the area being assessed, the majority of assessment criteria (AC) are at pass level. Learners meeting all learning outcomes at pass standards stated in the AC in a unit will gain a pass for that unit.

Learners achieving a merit will have demonstrated that they can complete more complex tasks beyond the pass level; there are fewer ACs at these levels. Learners meeting all learning outcomes at pass standards, and where available also at merit standards stated in the AC in a unit will gain a merit for that unit.

Learners achieving a distinction will have demonstrated they can complete more complex tasks at a consistently high level, beyond the merit level; there are fewer ACs at these levels. Learners meeting all learning outcomes at pass standards, and where available also at merit and distinction standards stated in the AC in a unit will gain a distinction for that unit.

Calculation of the Qualification Grade

The above grades are attained by gaining points for the successful achievement of each unit and the aggregation of those points and conversion to a qualification grade, in order to achieve the qualification, the learner must achieve at least a pass in each unit. The following table details the points allocated for pass, merit and distinction for each of the units within the qualification.

Unit Title	Unit Code	Points per unit grade		
		Pass	Merit	Distinction
Animal Health	K/650/3459	35	42	49
Introduction to Animal Biology	R/650/3460	55	66	77
Animal Welfare and Ethics	T/650/3461	35	42	49
Animal Behaviour Assessment and Safe Handling	Y/650/3462	35	42	49
Animal Husbandry	A/650/3463	35	42	49
Animal Care Industry Employment	D/650/3464	20	24	28
Practical Animal Care Project	F/650/3465	20	24	28

The points per unit are added up and then converted to a qualification grade using the following table.

Points for the Qualification Grade Conversion

Points range - Award	Grade
235 - 263	P
264 - 301	M
302 and above	D

Units

Title	Animal Health		
Level	Two		
Credit Value	7		
Guided Learning Hours (GLH)	60		
OCN NI Unit Code	CBF854		
Unit Reference No	K/650/3459		
<i>Unit purpose and aim(s):</i> This unit will enable the learner to develop the knowledge and skills associated with recognising and maintaining animal health.			
Learning Outcomes	Assessment Criteria = Pass	Assessment Criteria = Merit	Assessment Criteria = Distinction
1. Understand animal health and disease and how it may be assessed.	1.1. Describe the signs of good and poor health in at least three different animal species. 1.2. Describe common signs and treatments of the following for a given animal species: a) a viral disease b) a bacterial disease c) a parasite d) a metabolic disease e) a nutritional disease f) a stress disorder 1.3. Carry out a physical health check to assess the condition of at least three different animal species.	1.M.1 Describe at least three common zoonotic diseases in terms of transmission, signs and treatments.	1.D.1 Assess the signs of ill health in at least two given animals and the actions to be taken whilst ensuring own health and safety.
2. Understand how to promote animal health and wellbeing.	2.1. Describe how common diseases may be prevented in a given animal species to promote animal health and wellbeing. 2.2. Outline factors that may make at least three different animal species susceptible to disease. 2.3. Describe the role of hygiene, isolation and barrier nursing in preventing the spread of disease in animals. 2.4. Illustrate how to administer oral and topical parasite treatments.	2.M.1 Produce a care plan to promote animal health and wellbeing for the given animal species identified in AC 2.1.	2.D.1 Describe how at least three common preventative treatments work to promote animal health and wellbeing.

<p>3. Understand how to apply animal first aid principles and practices.</p>	<p>3.1. Describe the principles of animal first aid and associated limitations. 3.2. Describe the contents of an animal first aid kit. 3.3. Categorise different types of animal emergencies and actions to be taken. 3.4. Carry out appropriate practical first aid for at least three different scenarios.</p>	<p>3.M.1 Describe appropriate methods of animal restraint, moving and transportation for animal first aid casualties.</p>	<p>3.D.1 Summarise possible hazards to human handlers responding to an animal first aid emergency and how these may be minimised.</p>
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Assessment Guidance

The following assessment method/s may be used to ensure all learning outcomes and assessment criteria are fully covered.

Assessment Method	Definition	Possible Content
Portfolio of evidence	A collection of documents containing work undertaken to be assessed as evidence to meet required skills outcomes OR A collection of documents containing work that shows the learner's progression through the course	Learner notes/written work Learner log/diary Peer notes Record of observation Record of discussion
Practical demonstration/assignment	A practical demonstration of a skill/situation selected by the tutor or by learners, to enable learners to practise and apply skills and knowledge	Record of observation Learner notes/written work Learner log
Coursework	Research or projects that count towards a learner's final outcome and demonstrate the skills and/or knowledge gained throughout the course	Record of observation Learner notes/written work Tutor notes/record Learner log/diary
E-assessment	The use of information technology to assess learners' work	Electronic portfolio

Title	Introduction to Animal Biology		
Level	Two		
Credit Value	11		
Guided Learning Hours (GLH)	90		
OCN NI Unit Code	CBF855		
Unit Reference No	R/650/3460		
<p><i>Unit purpose and aim(s):</i> This unit will enable the learner to develop the knowledge and understanding of how the animal body works. Learners will know the structure and function of cells and the different body systems. The learner will also understand the principles of animal reproduction and heredity and adaptations.</p>			
Learning Outcomes	Assessment Criteria = Pass	Assessment Criteria = Merit	Assessment Criteria = Distinction
1. Be aware of animal organisms, cellular structure and function.	1.1. List the key attributes of organisms. 1.2. Illustrate the structure and function of generalised, typical and specialist animal cells.	1.M.1 Describe the key attributes of organisms. 1.M.2 Describe how specialised cells are adapted to their function and the relationship of specialised cells to tissues in a given animal species.	
2. Understand the structure and function of biological systems.	2.1. Illustrate the structure, function and position of the following biological systems: a) skeletal b) circulatory c) respiratory d) digestive e) excretory f) nervous g) reproductive 2.2. Compare the biological systems of at least three different animal species.	2.M.1 Assess how the structure and function of biological systems are related in different animal species.	2.D.1 Compare and contrast how the structure and function of biological systems are related across different animal species.
3. Understand the role of enzymes within biological animal systems.	3.1. Describe the roles of enzymes within biological systems for animal taxa. 3.2. Summarise the main factors affecting enzyme activity. 3.3. Describe the importance of enzymes within the animal digestive system.	3.M.1 Describe why shape is vital to enzyme function in the animal biological system.	3.D.1 Evaluate the importance of enzymes within the animal digestive system.

<p>4. Understand how animal species adapt to their environment.</p>	<p>4.1. Describe how the anatomy of a given animal species is linked to its environment.</p> <p>4.2. Describe how at least three different animal species adapt to the following external stimuli: a) structural b) physiological c) behavioural</p>	<p>4.M.1 Describe how at least three different animal species sensory organs adapt to environmental extremes.</p>	
<p>5. Understand animal genetics.</p>	<p>5.1. Describe what determines an animal's genetic makeup including DNA.</p> <p>5.2. Describe the production of sex cells including: a) stages of meiosis b) sex linked inheritance c) chromosome d) gene e) alleles</p> <p>5.3. Compare and contrast genotype and phenotype.</p> <p>5.4. Describe how alleles are expressed and their impact on the following: a) dominant b) recessive c) homozygous d) heterozygous e) breed requirements</p>	<p>5.M.1 Describe how genetic variance impacts on the evolution of animals.</p> <p>5.M.2 Describe how possible mutations in DNA are caused and their effects.</p>	<p>5.D.1 Assess how selective breeding, genetic engineering and artificial insemination can contribute to desirable animal characteristics.</p>

Assessment Guidance

The following assessment method/s may be used to ensure all learning outcomes and assessment criteria are fully covered.

Assessment Method	Definition	Possible Content
Portfolio of evidence	<p>A collection of documents containing work undertaken to be assessed as evidence to meet required skills outcomes</p> <p>OR</p> <p>A collection of documents containing work that shows the learner's progression through the course</p>	<p>Learner notes/written work</p> <p>Learner log/diary</p> <p>Peer notes</p> <p>Record of observation</p> <p>Record of discussion</p>
Practical demonstration/assignment	<p>A practical demonstration of a skill/situation selected by the tutor or by learners, to enable learners to practise and apply skills and knowledge</p>	<p>Record of observation</p> <p>Learner notes/written work</p> <p>Learner log</p>

Coursework	Research or projects that count towards a learner's final outcome and demonstrate the skills and/or knowledge gained throughout the course	Record of observation Learner notes/written work Tutor notes/record Learner log/diary
E-assessment	The use of information technology to assess learners' work	Electronic portfolio

Title	Animal Welfare and Ethics		
Level	Two		
Credit Value	7		
Guided Learning Hours (GLH)	60		
OCN NI Unit Code	CBF861		
Unit Reference No	T/650/3461		
<i>Unit purpose and aim(s):</i> This unit will enable the learner to understand animal welfare and ethics.			
Learning Outcomes	Assessment Criteria = Pass	Assessment Criteria = Merit	Assessment Criteria = Distinction
1. Understand animal welfare needs and how they may be applied.	1.1. Define what is meant by animal welfare. 1.2. Describe the five animal welfare needs, how they ensure good welfare and their application.	1.M.1 Apply the five animal welfare needs identified in AC 1.2 to a given animal species.	1.D.1 Assess the effectiveness of the application of animal welfare needs applied in AC 1.M.1.
2. Understand the application of animal welfare legislation.	2.1. Describe the key features of animal welfare legislation designed to protect the following: a) pets b) zoos and aquarium animals c) animals in pet shops	2.M.1 Assess how animal welfare is protected by specific legislation in one of the following animal industries: a) pets b) zoos and aquariums c) animals in pet shops	
3. Understand animal ethics.	3.1. Define what is meant by animal ethics. 3.2. Select three stakeholders from a given animal industry and describe their ethical viewpoints.	3.M.1 Describe three ethical issues relating to welfare for a chosen animal industry.	
4. Be able to carry out a welfare appraisal.	4.1. Outline relevant legislation applicable to a given animal welfare scenario. 4.2. Describe the requirements that a given organisation must adhere to regarding relevant legislation. 4.3. Carry out a welfare appraisal on the given animal scenario identified in AC 4.1. and complete associated documentation.	4.M.1 Assess welfare indicators and how measurement techniques have been used in the assessment of the welfare appraisal carried out in AC 4.3.	4.D.1 Develop an action plan including timescales based on the assessment of the welfare appraisal carried out in AC 4.M.1.

Assessment Guidance

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Portfolio of evidence	A collection of documents containing work undertaken to be assessed as evidence to meet required skills outcomes OR A collection of documents containing work that shows the learner's progression through the course	Learner notes/written work Learner log/diary Peer notes Record of observation Record of discussion
Practical demonstration/assignment	A practical demonstration of a skill/situation selected by the tutor or by learners, to enable learners to practise and apply skills and knowledge	Record of observation Learner notes/written work Learner log
Coursework	Research or projects that count towards a learner's final outcome and demonstrate the skills and/or knowledge gained throughout the course	Record of observation Learner notes/written work Tutor notes/record Learner log/diary
E-assessment	The use of information technology to assess learners' work	Electronic portfolio

Title	Animal Behaviour Assessment and Safe Handling		
Level	Two		
Credit Value	7		
Guided Learning Hours (GLH)	60		
OCN NI Unit Code	CBF857		
Unit Reference No	Y/650/3462		
<i>Unit purpose and aim(s):</i> This unit will enable the learner to understand animal behaviour and communication and carry out the safe handling, restraining and moving of different animal species. The learner will also carry out ethograms.			
Learning Outcomes	Assessment Criteria = Pass	Assessment Criteria = Merit	Assessment Criteria = Distinction
1. Understand animal behaviour and intraspecific communication.	1.1. Describe how the following may be displayed for at least three given animal species: a) dominance b) fear c) submission d) aggression e) stress f) pain 1.2. Summarise the internal and external factors that may affect the behaviour of different animal species. 1.3. Describe for a given animal species how intraspecific communication occurs in the following: a) courtship b) group living c) protecting territory	1.M.1 Describe the role of intraspecific communication in conflict reduction for at least two named animal species.	1.D.1 Assess different factors that may influence abnormal animal behaviour in at least three different scenarios.
2. Be able to safely handle, restrain, and move different animals.	2.1. Identify how common equipment is used in the safe handling, restraining, and moving of animals. 2.2. Develop a risk assessment for the handling, restraining and moving of at least three different animal species ensuring the safety of handler and animal. 2.3. Select and use appropriate equipment for the handling, restraining and moving of the animal species identified in AC 2.1 during the following: a) basic health checks b) grooming c) movement	2.M.1 Illustrate how to correctly approach at least three different animal species taking into account the following: a) individual animals needs b) handler and animal safety c) when it is not appropriate to approach the animal	2.D.1 Assess the impact of handling on the welfare of at least three different animal species including how the use of specific equipment may reduce stress and improve animal welfare.

3. Be able to carry out ethograms for different animal species.	3.1. Prepare and carry out simple ethograms for visual observations of at least two different domestic or captive animal species.	3.M.1 Record and report on the findings of ethograms carried out in AC 3.1, to include: a) table of results b) graph c) interpretation of observations	
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Assessment Guidance

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Portfolio of evidence	A collection of documents containing work undertaken to be assessed as evidence to meet required skills outcomes OR A collection of documents containing work that shows the learner's progression through the course	Learner notes/written work Learner log/diary Peer notes Record of observation Record of discussion
Practical demonstration/assignment	A practical demonstration of a skill/situation selected by the tutor or by learners, to enable learners to practise and apply skills and knowledge	Record of observation Learner notes/written work Learner log
Coursework	Research or projects that count towards a learner's final outcome and demonstrate the skills and/or knowledge gained throughout the course	Record of observation Learner notes/written work Tutor notes/record Learner log/diary
E-assessment	The use of information technology to assess learners' work	Electronic portfolio

Title	Animal Husbandry		
Level	Two		
Credit Value	7		
Guided Learning Hours (GLH)	60		
OCN NI Unit Code	CBF858		
Unit Reference No	A/650/3463		
<i>Unit purpose and aim(s):</i> This unit will enable the learner to understand animal husbandry, and how this can be applied in practice. Learners will develop the skills to correctly prepare accommodation, provide suitable food and water, and maintain the physical wellbeing of different animal species.			
Learning Outcomes	Assessment Criteria = Pass	Assessment Criteria = Merit	Assessment Criteria = Distinction
1. Understand animal husbandry.	1.1. Describe what is meant by animal husbandry.		
2. Understand how to prepare, clean, and maintain animal accommodation.	2.1. Prepare, clean and maintain accommodation safely for different animal species including waste disposal. 2.2. Select with justification appropriate bedding for the accommodation of at least three different animal species.	2.M.1 Assess the suitability of accommodation and how it should be prepared, cleaned and maintained to meet the needs of different animal species.	2.D.1 Evaluate the consequences of poor accommodation hygiene for the animals identified in AC 2.M.1 including at least one zoonotic disease issue.
3. Understand the selection, preparation, and provision of food and water for animals.	3.1. Select and prepare the correct feeding and watering equipment for at least three different animal species. 3.2. Demonstrate competent and safe working practices and scheduling when providing food and water for the animal species identified in AC 3.1.	3.M.1 Assess the nutritional needs of the animal species identified in AC 3.1 taking into account life stage and health.	
4. Understand the maintenance of the physical wellbeing of animals.	4.1. Select with justification and use correct grooming equipment safely for at least three different animals. 4.2. Describe using examples, the importance of non-medical preventative treatments in maintaining animal health. 4.3. Carry out physical wellbeing health checks and non-medical preventative treatments on at least three different animal species and record findings appropriately.	4.M.1 Assess the physical wellbeing implications for at least three different animals when grooming is neglected.	4.D.1 Assess the physical wellbeing importance for at least three different animals of enrichment, exercise, and mental stimulation.

5. Be able to develop and use a system for recording animal feeding and husbandry activities.	5.1. Develop and use an appropriate system for recording animal feeding and husbandry activities.		
Assessment Guidance			
The following assessment method/s may be used to ensure all learning outcomes and assessment criteria are fully covered.			
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Portfolio of evidence	A collection of documents containing work undertaken to be assessed as evidence to meet required skills outcomes OR A collection of documents containing work that shows the learner's progression through the course	Learner notes/written work Learner log/diary Peer notes Record of observation Record of discussion	
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Coursework	Research or projects that count towards a learner's final outcome and demonstrate the skills and/or knowledge gained throughout the course	Record of observation Learner notes/written work Tutor notes/record Learner log/diary	
E-assessment	The use of information technology to assess learners' work	Electronic portfolio	

Title	Animal Care Industry Employment		
Level	Two		
Credit Value	4		
Guided Learning Hours (GLH)	30		
OCN NI Unit Code	CBF859		
Unit Reference No	D/650/3464		
<i>Unit purpose and aim(s):</i> This unit will enable the learner to gain the skills needed to identify, participate in and review work placement in the animal care industry.			
Learning Outcomes	Assessment Criteria = Pass	Assessment Criteria = Merit	Assessment Criteria = Distinction
1. Understand different job roles in the animal care industry.	1.1. Identify the main job roles within the animal care industry and skills required.	1.M.1 Compare and contrast the requirements for three different job roles within the animal care industry.	1.D.1 Assess a given animal care industry job role in relation to the training and experience including opportunities for progression.
2. Be able to apply for work placement in the animal care industry.	2.1. Research different sources to identify a possible work placement. 2.2. Apply for the work placement identified in AC 2.1 using the required method. 2.3. Prepare for an interview for the work placement identified in AC 2.1.	2.M.1 Perform effectively as an interviewee for the work placement identified in AC 2.1 using appropriate communication and interpersonal skills.	2.D.1 Assess own preparation for and performance in the work placement interview.
3. Be able to undertake and assess own work placement in the animal care industry.	3.1. Undertake a work placement in the animal care industry. 3.2. Maintain a record of work placement undertaken in AC 3.1 including: a) timesheets b) diary of work activities c) witness statements 3.3. Create a self-development plan on own work placement assessing the following: a) new skills, knowledge and training required b) experience to be gained	3.M.1 Create a report on work placement undertaken in AC 3.1 including the following: a) name of work experience provider b) nature of the organisation c) work placement role d) health and safety requirements e) skills and knowledge developed	3.D.1 Assess the effectiveness of own performance during work placement undertaken in AC 3.1 identifying possible areas for own development.

Assessment Guidance

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E-assessment	The use of information technology to assess learners' work	Electronic portfolio E-tests

Title	Practical Animal Care Project		
Level	Two		
Credit Value	4		
Guided Learning Hours (GLH)	30		
OCN NI Unit Code	CBF860		
Unit Reference No	F/650/3465		
<i>Unit purpose and aim(s):</i> This unit is a synoptic unit and will assess the skills learned. This unit will enable the learner to develop, implement and evaluate an animal husbandry care routine to support and maintain animal health and welfare.			
Learning Outcomes	Assessment Criteria = Pass	Assessment Criteria = Merit	Assessment Criteria = Distinction
1. Be able to develop an animal husbandry care routine.	1.1. Research and develop an animal husbandry care routine to support and maintain the animal health and welfare of an animal species from one of the following classifications: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mammal 2. Avian 3. Herptile 4. Invertebrate to include the following: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) species introduction b) normal and abnormal behavioural signs c) daily dietary requirements d) daily water requirements e) accommodation options and maintenance f) substrate or bedding requirements g) temperature and/or lighting requirements h) ventilation requirements i) daily exercise or enrichment requirements j) frequency and list of routine and non-routine health care treatments and observations k) applicable legislation 1.2. Compare and contrast two accommodation options for the animal species identified in AC 1.1 and recommend the most appropriate for inclusion in the animal husbandry care routine.		

<p>2. Understand how to implement an animal husbandry care routine.</p>	<p>2.1. Describe how the animal husbandry care routine created in AC 1.1 may be implemented.</p> <p>2.2. Assess the advantages of accurate record keeping for the tracking and monitoring of animal health care activities and health status.</p>	<p>2.M.1 Assess how the implementation of the animal husbandry care routine created in AC 1.1 may address the five animal needs.</p>	<p>2.D.1 Assess how the implementation of the animal husbandry care routine created in AC 1.1 may comply with the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) current legislation b) policies c) procedures d) guidelines, e) codes of practice f) ethics g) animal safety h) own and other's safety
<p>3. Be able to implement an animal husbandry care routine.</p>	<p>3.1. Implement the animal husbandry care routine created in AC 1.1 demonstrating the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) two animal husbandry practices including one health check to maintain animal health and welfare b) safe animal handling, restraining, and moving c) ongoing monitoring d) accurate record keeping 	<p>3.M.1 Demonstrate how to maintain effective hygiene, bio security procedures and infection controls when carrying out AC 3.1.</p>	<p>3.D.1 Assess possible health and safety deficiencies when carrying out AC 3.1 identifying possible solutions.</p>
<p>4. Be able to evaluate an animal husbandry care routine.</p>	<p>4.1. Evaluate the animal husbandry care routine implemented in AC 3.1 and how it supported and maintained animal health and welfare.</p>	<p>4.M.1 Produce and present an evaluation report based on findings identified in AC 4.1 to an audience.</p>	<p>4.D.1 Determine possible improvements to the husbandry care routine using the findings identified in AC 4.1 to improve animal health and welfare and how these improvements may be implemented.</p>

Delivery Guidance

This unit must be delivered last and will simulate an 'on the job' activity to include at least 20 hours of project time. Learners will be given an opportunity to research solutions to a given challenge, present solutions, implement the chosen solution and conduct an evaluation. Representatives from industry are encouraged to attend this presentation.

Assessment Guidance

The following assessment method/s may be used to ensure all learning outcomes and assessment criteria are fully covered.

Assessment Method	Definition	Possible Content
Portfolio of evidence	A collection of documents containing work undertaken to be assessed as evidence to meet required skills outcomes OR A collection of documents containing work that shows the learner's progression through the course	Learner notes/written work Learner log/diary Peer notes Record of observation Record of discussion
Practical demonstration/assignment	A practical demonstration of a skill/situation selected by the tutor or by learners, to enable learners to practise and apply skills and knowledge	Record of observation Learner notes/written work Learner log
Coursework	Research or projects that count towards a learner's final outcome and demonstrate the skills and/or knowledge gained throughout the course	Record of observation Learner notes/written work Tutor notes/record Learner log/diary
E-assessment	The use of information technology to assess learners' work	Electronic portfolio E-tests

Quality Assurance of Centre Performance

External Verification

All OCN NI recognised centres are subject to External Verification. External verification visits and monitoring activities will be conducted annually to confirm continued compliance with the conditions of recognition, review the centre's risk rating for the qualification and to assure OCN NI of the maintenance of the integrity of the qualification.

The External Verifier will review the delivery and assessment of this qualification. This will include the review of a sample of assessment evidence and evidence of the internal verification of assessment and assessment decisions. This will form the basis of the EV report and will inform OCN NI's annual assessment of centre compliance and risk. The External Verifier is appointed by OCN NI.

Standardisation

As a process, standardisation is designed to ensure consistency and promote good practice in understanding and application of standards. Standardisation events:

- make qualified statements about the level of consistency in assessment across centres delivering a qualification
- make statements on the standard of evidence that is required to meet the assessment criteria for units in a qualification
- make recommendations on assessment practice
- produce advice and guidance for the assessment of units
- identify good practice in assessment and internal verification

Centres offering units of an OCN NI qualification must attend and contribute assessment materials and learner evidence for standardisation events if requested.

OCN NI will notify centres of the nature of sample evidence required for standardisation events (this will include assessment materials, learner evidence and relevant assessor and internal verifier documentation). OCN NI will make standardisation summary reports available and correspond directly with centres regarding event outcomes.

Administration

Registration

A centre must register learners within 90 working days of commencement of a qualification.

Certification

Certificates will be issued to centres within 20 working days of receipt of correctly completed results marksheets. It is the responsibility of the centre to ensure that certificates received from OCN NI are held securely and distributed to learners promptly and securely.

Charges

OCN NI publishes all up to date qualification fees in its Fees and Invoicing Policy document. Further information can be found on the centre login area of the OCN NI website.

Equality, Fairness and Inclusion

OCN NI has considered the requirements of equalities legislation in developing the specification for these qualifications. For further information and guidance relating to access to fair assessment and the OCN NI Reasonable Adjustments and Special Considerations policies, centres should refer to the OCN NI website.

Retention of Evidence

OCN NI has published guidance for centres on the retention of evidence. Details are provided in the OCN NI Centre Handbook and can be accessed via the OCN NI website.

OCN NI Level 2 Diploma in Animal Care
Qualification Number: 610/1244/0

Operational start date: 01 August 2022
Operational end date: 31 July 2027
Certification end date: 31 July 2029

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