

Programme Specification

Introduction

This specification is designed to provide a concise overview of the main features of the course and the learning outcomes that a student may be reasonably expected to achieve and demonstrate if they take full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. Key sources of information about this course can also be found on the College website.

1. Key Programme Information	
Qualification Title	Higher National Certificate in Animal Management (HNC) Higher National Diploma in Animal Management (HND)
Awarding Body	Pearson Education Ltd
Place of Delivery	Kirklees College
Final Award	Level 4 Higher National Certificate in Animal Management Level 5 Higher National Diploma in Animal Management
Exit Award/s	
Department	Land-Based
Modes of Attendance	Full Time
Delivery site/campus	Taylor Hill Campus Waterfront campus
Course Length	1 Year full time HNC 1-year full time HND
UCAS code	TBC
Awarding Body course Code	HNC: 603/2771/6 HND: 603/2772/8
Relevant Subject Benchmarking Groups	Framework for Higher Education Qualifications (FHEQ)?
Language of Study	English
Tuition Fees	£6950 (does not include any enrichment activities/trips/visits or expenses)
Date of Internal Review	22 July
Date of next Review	June 2024

2. Main Purposes and Distinctive Features of the Programme

The BTEC Level 4 Higher National Certificate in Animal Management offers students a broad introduction to the subject area via selected compulsory core learning modules, while allowing an achievement of skills and experience to be obtained through a variety of both specialist and optional units. These units consist of subjects that cover a range of work-related sectors at Level 4. This fundamentally builds skills while preparing the student for progression onto Level 5 or employment. Knowledge will be achieved which is fundamentally tied to practical skills, related to the work sector, which are gained in research, directed study and workplace scenarios.

The BTEC Level 5 Higher National Diploma will allow students to develop a thorough understanding of the principals involved within animal management, learning how to apply these principles widely within the subject areas. Being able to perform successfully in their chosen field and having the traits necessary for employment, for example, practicing personal responsibility and decision-making, are skills within which students, upon completion of the programme, will be able to achieve.

3. Admissions Criteria

64 UCAS points.

Btec Extended National Diploma MPP.

City and Guilds Level 3 Advanced Technical Diploma 1080 (MPP) and the City and Guilds Level 3 Advanced Technical Diploma 720 (MM).

Mature students will be assessed on individual merit, work experience and suitability for the programme.

- English language requirements: Common European Framework of Reference (CEFR) level B2; or • Pearson Test of English Academic (PTE Academic) 42; or • Pearson Test of English General (PTE) Level 3; or • Pearson Versant English Test 58-68; or • International English Language Testing System (IELTS) 5.5; with both Reading and Writing elements at 5.5.

Claims for Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) and Recognition of Prior Experiential Learning (RPEL) are welcomed by the Programme team.

The College welcomes applications from candidates who do not meet the above criteria. Where this is the case, applicants will be invited for interview at which they will be expected to provide a portfolio (either physical or digital) that demonstrates professional industry experience in a relevant discipline and/or can demonstrate a strong interest in this through extra-curricular activity, research or work experience. As part of the interview process, candidates may be evaluated for their aptitude to study at this level

All applications are subject to our applications policy and all HE policies can be found here; [Policies & Reports - Kirklees College](#)

4. Progression Opportunities

On successful completion of the level 4 qualification (HNC in Animal Management), the programme will provide opportunities for students to progress to the Higher National Diploma in Animal Management (Level 5). The HNC provides a solid base in animal management, from which students can develop and continue their studies beyond the certificate stage to the diploma. The level 4 essentially builds a foundation of core skills allowing the student to gain preparation for potential progression onto Level 5 (HND). The HNC course will broaden the students access to higher education and/or enhance the career possibilities of those who undertake the course.

Upon successful completion of the HND students can progress onto further study in higher education, undertaking a top up degree. HND students will have established a thorough understanding of the principles in animal management and will have learnt how to apply those principles further. The HND is accepted by Higher Education providers as meeting entry requirements to various relevant animal management related courses such as animal behaviour, animal management and animal welfare. Alternatively, upon completion of the HND students can also progress directly into employment in fields such as animal behaviour and welfare (animal keeper/animal trainer) or animal science (animal instructor/veterinary assistant).

- Continuing existing employment
Or apply for University courses such as:
Askham Bryan College, York. Offer top up degree programmes in:
BSc (Hons) Animal Management (Top Up)
BSc (Hons) Zoo Management (Top Up)
BSc (Hons) Canine and Feline Behaviour and Welfare (Top Up)
BSc (Hons) Animal Conservation (Top Up)
BSc (Hons) Veterinary Nursing (Top Up)
Reaseheath College, Cheshire. Offer top up degree programmes in:
BSc (Hons) Animal Management (Behaviour and Welfare)
BSc (Hons) Veterinary Nursing
BSc (Hons) Zoo Management

Students are advised to check the entry requirements for the degree programmes at specific Higher Education providers.

5. Programme Structure				
HNC				
Unit	Credits	year	level	Unit Title
2	15	1	4	Business Environment
15	15	1	4	Animal Collection Management
14	15	1	4	Management of Exotic Animal Species
4	15	1	4	Animal Behaviour in Society
8	15	1	4	Ecological Principles
3	15	1	4	Managing a Successful Research Project
6	15	1	4	Anatomy and Physiology
1	15	1	4	Animal Health and Welfare
Total Certificate Credits = 120				
NB* all units must be completed with a minimum grade of pass to receive the award.				

6. Programme Structure				
HND				
Unit	Credits	year	level	Unit Title
23	15	2	5	Biological Principles
24	30	2	5	Research Project
25	15	2	5	Anthrozoology
36	15	2	5	Evolution and Adaptations
35	15	2	5	Wildlife Conservation
40	15	2	5	Sustainable practices
41	15	2	5	Work Experience
Total Certificate Credits = 120				
NB* all units must be completed with a minimum grade of pass to receive the award.				

7. Teaching, Learning & Assessment Strategies

Teaching and learning methods are aligned to the learning outcomes and support learners in becoming independent enquirers, problem solvers and effective communicators. The HE lecturers will engage students in a range of pedagogy approaches that ensure links are made between theory and practice. Staff will ensure an active engagement with research informed teaching, where tutors will exchange knowledge with students to build an active community of learners, which will inspire and empower students to contribute and achieve. Examples include:

- Lectures
- Seminars
- Practical's
- Guided independent study
- Blended learning (including TEAMS)

This may also include:

- Guest lectures
- Small group learning
- Role play
- Case study analysis

Knowledge and understanding will be assessed through:

- Written reports and/or essays
- Practical assessment
- Presentations
- Laboratory reports
- Research projects
- Observations
- Reflective accounts
- Work Placement/Voluntary work (if applicable)
- Trips/visits (subject to availability and additional costs will be incurred, these are not included in course fees)

- Optional field trip to South Africa (subject to availability) Blackpool Zoo, Falconry centre and other course related trips (subject to change/not included in course fees).

Prior to formal assessment students will have taken part in a range of activities that support their preparation for final assessment that allow students to critically consider their application of theory to practice. There will be a balance between formative (developmental) feedback and summative (judgmental) feedback to promote deeper learning among students and to give students an opportunity to maximise their potential. The assessment of the BTEC Higher National qualifications is criterion-based and learner’s evidence is assessed against the learning outcomes. The purpose of this is to ensure effective learning of the content of each unit has taken place. All units are individually graded as PASS, MERIT or DISTINCTION. However, the focus is on the overall learning outcome for individual assessments. Should you fail to meet the requirements of the learning outcomes you could fail the unit/programme. The assessment policy can be found here; [Policies & Reports - Kirklees College](#)

Those programmes with a work placement requirement will have to gather extensive evidence of these hours and the knowledge application, skills and behaviours necessary for the award.

During the HND students will need to undertake **80** hours of work experience as a minimum to pass the course. This can be within the field of animal management (preferred) however we do understand if this is not always possible and will discuss optional work sectors that this can be completed within. It will be expected that students negotiate and agree work experience in an appropriate work context independently, which then has to be discussed and approved by the employer and unit tutor.

8. Study Support

Student’s primary source of support is through the Curriculum Leader and individual unit tutors. The College also provides a range of support and advice services that can be accessed through the student service team, including signposting to mental health services and UCAS applications for progressing students. All learners are supported on an individual basis in order to ensure all students have equal access to the learning opportunities on offer and ensure fair assessment, adjustments may be made to the programme, teaching styles and assessment practices.

9. Methods for Evaluating & Improving the Quality Standards of Teaching & Learning (T&L)	
Mechanisms for review and evaluation of learning, the curriculum and outcome standards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● External approaches: OfS, NSS Survey, Pearson Survey, External Examiners VISITS & reports. ● The awarding body will allocate an External examiner who will verify the writing of assessments and grading of student work in line with other Higher Education Institutions nationally. Until these are agreed all grades are known as CONDITIONAL. ● Internal: ● Internal verification processes ● Annual self-assessment reports ● AMPR ● Unit feedback questionnaires ● Student reps.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regular HE course Team Meetings, including work scrutiny.
Groups for monitoring and evaluation quality and standards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> HE Quality Managers Meeting HE Committee Meetings HE Course Leader Meeting Senior Leadership Team QPS meetings End of semester course unit evaluation report
Mechanisms for gaining student feedback on the quality of T&L and their learning experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meetings with External Examiners Student Association meetings End of Unit Feedback Questionnaires Informal unit and learning environment feedback opportunities (staff-student liaison meetings) NSS Survey
Staff Development for staffs teaching on HE courses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Published policy on T&L Development Opportunities to attend external conferences, additional qualifications, specialist and commercial updating. Supported in obtaining a teaching qualification if not already obtained. Encouraged to enrol on external training such as: Masters/PHD
Complaints Procedure	<p>Kirklees College subscribe to the Office of Independent Adjudicators (OIA) and students are expected to use our internal complaints procedures, information found here; Policies & Reports - Kirklees College once these have been exhausted a Completion of Procedures Letter (COP) will be issued, once this has been received students can send this to the OIA if they are not satisfied with the outcome of the complaint and how it was managed.</p>
Date of last QAA visit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> May 2018

10. Personal Development

During the course students are encouraged to further develop a range of personal and professional skills to enhance opportunities for personal goals and employment within their specialist area. Staffs seek to signpost students to additional learning opportunities through other awarding bodies and local partnerships with employers. Students are also encouraged to be self-motivated in their approach to their personal professional development.

Reviewed by: KS

Date Reviewed: August 2023