

GENERAL FARM WORKER APPRENTICESHIPS

LEVEL 2
DURATION 18 MONTHS

JOB TITLES

Stockperson · Farm machinery operator · Farm hand · Arable farm labourer · Dairy hand

ROLE PROFILE

The General Farm Worker role is vital to support the operation of farm enterprises through maintaining a culture of health and safety, biosecurity, engaging with third parties, maintaining crop, animal handling and health, maintenance and cleanliness of machinery.

The apprentice will work alongside the supervisor, supporting daily operations for the farm enterprises including identifying and maintaining animal or plant health performance, conducting routine tasks and assisting with general record keeping practices. The apprentice will also manage the storage of forage and crop, minimising waste and disposing of necessary waste appropriately.

This Apprenticeship Standard takes a core and options approach. All apprentices will complete the core and must select the one most appropriate option to their role: Livestock Worker or Arable Worker.

PROGRAMME DELIVERY

This programme will be delivered through a combination of practical hands-on and theory based activities which will be tailored to ensure the apprentice develops the necessary knowledge, skills and behaviours to become a professional farm worker and an effective member of the organisation. With all apprenticeships there is a requirement to record 20% off-the-job activities and this will be achieved through the use of a dedicated electronic on-line portfolio which the apprentice, the employer and the college delivery team will all have access to. The apprentice will be assigned a dedicated Assessor Trainer, who will undertake regular workplace progress reviews with both the apprentice and an assigned workplace mentor, as well as supporting all aspects of the apprentices ongoing development. This approach enables effective progress monitoring and target setting to be established from day 1, ensuring the employer and apprentice are clear about all aspects of the apprenticeship programme and what part they each play in ensuring the apprentice continues to make the expected levels of progress. Furthermore, this approach ensures any additional support requirements or interventions can be implemented in a timely manner as required. A BCA Virtual Learning Environment ensures all learning, development and support material can be easily accessed, further supporting the blended learning and development approach adopted by BCA for all its apprenticeship delivery. This ensures flexible and responsive training at all times, through a combination of on-line and face-to-face activities delivered by industry experts, using our high quality, industry recognised resources and equipment. The apprentice will be required to undertake and pass an independent End Point Assessment upon successful completion of their apprenticeship, after which point they will be awarded their Apprenticeship Certificate.

PROFESSIONAL ELEMENTS

- Level 3: Award in Emergency First Aid at Work, which is a minimum of 1-day course (Ofqual regulated)
- City & Guilds Level 2 Principles of Safe Handling and Application of Pesticides or Lantra Awards Level 2 Award in the Safe Use of Pesticides

STUDENT PROGRESSION

Level 3 Crop Technician · Level 3 Livestock Unit Technician

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Employers will ultimately determine the entry requirements, but you must have the attitude and ability to develop the required skills and knowledge during the apprenticeship. This will be tested via an application/interview process.

Apprentices without level 1 English and maths will need to achieve this level and apprentices without level 2 English and maths will need to take the tests for this level prior to taking the end-point assessment.

EXAMPLE BEHAVIOURS CONTENT

- Acts responsibly to provide a high standard of welfare and biosecurity to livestock and crops under their care
- Able to adapt to change in conditions, technologies and working environments.
- Ability to use own initiative and know when to seek help
- Work proactively with internal and external people

EXAMPLE KNOWLEDGE CONTENT

- The five welfare needs of animals:
- The importance of biosecurity and how it is managed
- The responsibilities relating to movement of livestock, under health and safety and animal welfare legislation, regulation and local policy
- The significance of producing crops to specifications and how this can be achieved.
- The most commonly used technology or automation options. For example, Robotic milking, EID tagging, GPS tracking and why maintenance is needed
- The importance of reducing waste, waste legislation and how this can be implemented in the workplace
- Feed, nutritional and water requirements of livestock at different stages of production

EXAMPLE SKILLS CONTENT

- Assist with safe restraint, moving and handling of livestock.
- Legally operate a farm vehicle and each attachment according to health and safety requirements
- Carry out maintenance of farm infrastructure including housing for livestock, boundaries and electric or non-electric fences
- Monitor and maintain health & welfare of livestock and assist with treatments when appropriate
- Provide feed and water to livestock as instructed and report any issues to appropriate person
- Complete manual and electronic records in accordance with legislation and the business processes
- Produce products for sale from the business