

HORTICULTURE AND LANDSCAPE OPERATIVE APPRENTICESHIPS

LEVEL 2

DURATION 24 MONTHS

JOB TITLES

Gardener · Greenhouse technician · Garden centre assistant ·
Landscape · Grounds operative

ROLE PROFILE

Horticulture or landscape apprentices can be employed to work in public parks and gardens, green spaces and historic gardens, private gardens and estates or in production nurseries and retail outlets.

The horticulture option focuses on plant propagation and plant growth. The landscape construction option focuses on the installation of features and structures; application of landscape materials as well as supporting site management.

Work is generally based outside and undertaken throughout the year, so apprentices will frequently work outside in all weathers. A wide range of machinery and tools are used and additional training may be required depending on the nature of the works undertaken.

Working and learning in the horticulture and landscape industries is rewarding, offers a diverse range of employment opportunities and includes a range of skills that are transferable into many other industries.

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 horticulture / landscape 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.

STUDENT PROGRESSION

L3 Horticulture supervisor
L3 Landscape 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 KNOWLEDGE CONTENT

- Industry understanding & Business policies, vision and values.
- Communication; the importance of clear communication. Knowledge of different forms of communication aids and their use. The value of effective and timely communication in customer care
- Health and safety; regulation, legislation, policy and procedure
- Environmental; waste and waste reduction and recycling and environmental best practice.
- Plant growth and development; plant nutrition and plant requirements
- Tools, equipment and machinery; correct tools, equipment and machinery required for the job and the importance of maintenance and regular checks
- Plant identification; Soils science; Plant health; Biosecurity; vegetation control

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

EXAMPLE BEHAVIOURS CONTENT

- Health and safety; have a safety-led mind-set for self, colleagues and the public
- Customer care; show dignity, respect and empathy when dealing with others, including clients, the public and colleagues
- Learn behaviours, skills and knowledge effectively from craftspeople and managers
- Attitude; have a positive and motivated attitude towards work, including having pride in one's work
- Decision making; adopt a pragmatic timely approach by identifying appropriate solutions to practical problems

EXAMPLE SKILLS CONTENT

- Communication; Team working; Health and safety; Environmental;
- Planting; Soil cultivation;
- Tools, equipment and machinery; safely use tools e.g. spades, rakes, shovels;
- Vegetation control; pruning and vegetation control, including basic turf management. Follow weed control methods
- Maintain hard structures; maintain structures relevant to the business activities
- Site presentation; work to a specified finish