



Level 2 Apprenticeship Standard – Stockperson (Beef, Pigs, Sheep, Dairy)

Introduction to programme:

Businesses within the agriculture industry range from small family farms through to large integrated organisations working across the food supply chain. The key role for a Stockperson is to raise the animals with optimal welfare and consideration for their needs throughout the different stages of their life. This is practical work involving a combination of technology and manual labour. Being a stockperson requires compassion, self-motivation and the ability to work in a team and independently.

A stockperson will be responsible for their own work, but will have close supervision. As animal welfare is a priority on a farm, the key to being a good stockperson is understanding your limits and knowing when to ask for help.

Working with live animals presents a range of challenges to overcome and ensures no two days will be the same. This standard follows a 'core and options' approach. The core covers the generic requirements for looking after animals competently and the sector options provide more specific needs for different livestock. One option will be taken in addition to the core skills to complete this apprenticeship, which provides a solid foundation for a range of progression opportunities within the industry.

Duration of Apprenticeship:

The Level 2 Stockperson apprenticeship will typically take 18 months to complete.

Entry Requirements:

Entry requirements will be determined by individual employers but typically potential apprentices will have a minimum of 5 GCSE's at Grades A-D (or 9-4 on the new grading system), or equivalent, including maths and English. Employers who recruit apprentices without the above levels of qualifications will have to ensure they achieve a minimum of level 1 in maths and English as part of their apprenticeship.

Costs:

Costs will be dependent on several factors such as age of apprentice, size of employer etc. Incentives may be available for some employers. Please contact us for more information.

Delivery Location:

Work Based blended delivery programme consisting predominantly of on-site training and assessment within the workplace, this will be supported by off-site technical training at Myerscough College (Preston Campus), one day per fortnight. Course teaching, learning and assessment is enhanced through the effective use of e portfolio and distance learning resources to ensure flexible delivery is responsive to learner, employer and situational needs.

SKILLS	Core Skills
Overarching	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote and maintain health, safety and security both personally and across the site including correct first aid responses Use appropriate technology to support your role Keep accurate records relevant to job role Prepare and operate machinery and other equipment for safe and efficient use
Health, biosecurity & welfare	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement and monitor site bio-security (including isolation) as per farm plan Prepare accommodation for incoming livestock including cleaning and disinfecting Monitor and maintain the health and welfare of livestock Administer treatments, where appropriate, as per farm health plan
Vehicle Operation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Competently operate (to certified level) a relevant vehicle used in the business
Nutrition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Feed stock according to instruction Assess the condition and behaviour of animals at feeding Provide water of sufficient quality and quantity
Handling & Moving	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prepare livestock and facilities for transfer as appropriate Handle and restrain livestock in a safe and appropriate manner Move animals without causing undue stress
Breeding/Replacement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify signs of heat Monitor and maintain livestock during pregnancy Monitor and maintain the care of livestock during and after birth with assistance where appropriate



KNOWLEDGE

- Health and safety legislation, and codes of practice in relation to the job role/ workplace including contingency/emergency plans
- Practical health and safety information to ensure everyone is safe in the workplace
- Safe operation of a relevant farm vehicle
- Relevant animal welfare codes of practice (including five freedoms), legislation and company policies
- Importance of relevant record keeping systems and storage
- Awareness of input costs, cost of production and margins
- Awareness of key performance indicators (farm and industry averages)
- High standards of hygiene and biosecurity
- Signs of ill health and welfare issues and the action required to mitigate (including referrals where appropriate)
- Safe use of veterinary medicines, including the importance of correct dosage / application of antibiotics and anthelmintics
- Breed differences and characteristics
- Environmental needs of the animals including housing and accommodation and the impact of any change
- Correct feed and water for relevant livestock and growth stage
- Production cycle of livestock
- Correct procedures for breeding, feeding, handling, selection, moving and transporting of livestock to include appreciation of animal needs and behaviours in a variety of circumstances
- Impact of stockpersons behaviour on livestock
- Security procedures for the unit
- Safe and effective maintenance of equipment
- Importance of good environmental practice
- Procedures for maintaining sufficient stocks
- How technology can assist business efficiency
- Customers' and assurance scheme requirements
- Supply chains in which they are working

BEHAVIOURS	What is required
Strong work ethic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have a strong work ethic including pride in work, attention to detail, integrity, honesty, time management, loyalty and respect for others • Positive attitude, motivated, dependable, ethical, responsible, flexible and reliable • A willingness to learn and contribute to their own continuing professional development • Provide a high standard of welfare to the livestock under their care and be accountable for their own actions
Adaptability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Able to adapt to change in conditions, technologies, situations and working environments • Willingness to accept changing priorities and work patterns when new jobs need to be done, or requirements change
Effective Communicator	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A clear and effective communicator • Able to give/receive information accurately, timely and in a positive manner
Team Work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work and contribute effectively in a team • Ability to work on own initiative and know when to seek help when appropriate • Work proactively with internal and external people to achieve positive outcomes
Safety Awareness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Embrace a safety culture and apply proactively to self, colleagues and visitors

Occupational Routes

Individuals will need to achieve the core skills, knowledge and behaviours and one option from the following list:

OPTION	KNOWLEDGE & SKILLS REQUIRED
Pigs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify animals appropriately • Store and use livestock semen appropriately • Carry out Artificial insemination on livestock/supervise natural mating • Administer relevant treatments to animals such as vaccination and euthanasia • Assess/respond to ventilation needs
Dairy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepare livestock for and carry out milking • Recognise mastitis and respond appropriately • Assess lameness and respond appropriately • Carry out calf disbudding • Identify animals correctly (including tagging procedures)
Beef	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify animals correctly (including tagging procedures) • Assess lameness and respond appropriately • Carry out calf disbudding
Sheep	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepare for shearing/wool handling • Carry out crutching • Identify animals correctly (including electronic identification device tagging procedures) • Assess lameness and treat as appropriate • Carry out tail docking and castration as appropriate

Qualifications/ Certificates

Level 2 Awards in:

Emergency first aid at work

The safe use of pesticides (PA1)

On completion of the pesticides foundation unit above also choose **one** of the following units:

Boom sprayer, mounted, trailed or self-propelled equipment (PA2a)

Handheld applicator equipment (Pa6a)

End Point Assessment

The end point assessment will contain 3 components:

- Online multiple choice test (40 Questions) (90 mins)
- Workplace observation of practical tasks, 3 tasks over 1 day (2 hours per task, total of 6 hours)
- Professional Discussion (60 mins)

There will be 3 levels of achievement: Pass, Merit & Distinction

How to apply

To apply for this course, complete a Myerscough College Apprentice Application Form. You can either contact the Employer Services Team or download one from the website.

Please return the completed application form to;

Employer Services, Myerscough College, Bilsborrow, Preston, PR3 0RY

Or email the completed electronic form to wapplications@myerscough.ac.uk

Telephone: 01995 642255

Email: employerenquiries@myerscough.ac.uk Website: www.myerscough.ac.uk