



Level:	Intermediate Apprenticeship (Level 2)
Typical Duration:	24 Months
Delivery Model:	Work-based
Delivery Location:	Nationwide
Start Date:	Throughout the Year



Introduction to the Programme

This qualification is suitable for anyone working in a horticulture/soft landscaping industry including the establishment and maintenance of plants and cultivated area and therefore focuses on plant propagation and plant growth. The work is generally based outside and undertaken throughout the year, so apprentices will frequently work outside in all weathers. Often people new to the industry will start in a 'hands-on' role covering a range of practical tasks, with specialist skills being learnt through progression. 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 industry is rewarding, offers a diverse range of employment opportunities and includes a range of skills that are transferrable into many other industries.



Duration

This apprenticeship will typically take 24 months to complete. The length may be altered if the apprentice has already gained knowledge and skills working in this sector.



Entry requirements

Employers set the selection criteria for their apprentices. Typically, this will include a minimum of 5 GCSE's at Grade 9-4, or equivalent, including English and Maths. Apprentices without level 1 Functional Skills will need to achieve this level as part of their apprenticeship.

In addition, it is desirable that the apprentice has a basic understanding of Information and Communication Technology.



Costs

Costs will be dependent on several factors such as age of apprentice and size of employer. The cost may be altered if the apprentice has already gained knowledge and skills working in this sector. Please contact us for more information.



Delivery Location

Delivery is work-based using blended learning technologies on the employer's premises. There is an expectation that 20% of the working week will be off the job training, which is a legal requirement.



Knowledge, Skills & Behaviour gained

Throughout the programme, apprentices will work towards gaining the following knowledge, skills & behaviours:

Knowledge

Have a knowledge of:

- Compliance with environmental and health and safety legislation and regulations.
- Compliance with policies and procedures – company, client, health and safety risk assessments, rules of the game from the different Governing Bodies of Sport.
- The identification and correct application of materials, tools, equipment and machinery used in maintenance and renovation activities.
- Identification and understanding of different grasses, soil types, weeds, pests, diseases, turf disorders, artificial surfacing material, underlays, infill material, turf and soil reinforcement material, line marking materials.
- The principles of photosynthesis, respiration and transpiration in the growth and development of plants.
- The impact of weather, ground conditions and usage on pitch quality and playing quality.
- The different Performance Quality Standards for a range of different sports turf surfaces.
- How to minimise waste and reduce environmental impact.
- How to monitor, record and report basic grounds maintenance findings.

Skills

Have the ability to:

- Maintain and renovate turf surfaces in a safe and appropriate way to ensure games can take place which provide for a fair, safe and exciting contest for players. This will include the safe use of a range of equipment and machinery, such as mowers, scarifiers, aerators and other specialist turf care equipment, covering hand tools, as well as pedestrian operated, ride-on and tractor mounted implements.
- Correctly calibrate equipment for material requirements and apply at the correct rates a range of materials, including grass seed, fertiliser and bulky top-dressing



- Use integrated prevention and control methods to reduce the incidence of diseases, disorders, pests and weeds on turf.
- Set and mark out sports areas in accordance with the Laws of the Governing Bodies of Sport.
- Maintain tools, equipment and machinery used for maintenance and renovation activities to ensure their safe and effective use.
- Maintain and conduct basic routine servicing and repairs to drainage and irrigation systems.
- Effectively communicate with others and provide an excellent level of customer service.
- Work safely, efficiently and effectively at all times, whether under supervision, as an individual, or in a team.

Behaviours

Have the required behaviours including:

- **Safety orientation** – This occupation operates within an industry that has significant hazards and risks from the use of machinery and materials (such as pesticides). The potential for harm to self, others, wildlife and the environment is considerable. There needs to be a competent understanding of health and safety and implementation of these practices at all times.
- **Positive Work Ethic** – Positive attitude, committed, motivated by providing an excellent customer service and getting the game on wherever possible. Able to adapt to a change in conditions, products, situations and working environments, is dependable, reliable, responsible and responsive to embracing social and cultural diversity and ethical in the treatment of others. Wants to stretch and drive their Continuous Professional Development.
- **Quality Focused** – Follows approved procedures and processes in a logical manner, paying attention to detail and applying approved checks throughout work activities to ensure work completed is fit for purpose.
- **Team Player** – Able to work on own initiative but also able to interact and communicate effectively within a team applying a respectful professional manner. Able to listen and absorb information, to ask questions when instructions are not understood or unclear and to work within the limitations of the job role.
- **Contributor to Sustainability** – Continuously strives to work efficiency and effectively to assist others in activities as appropriate to the job role. Aware of the financial, social and environmental impacts of their actions.



End Point Assessment

At a point where employer, tutor and apprentice feel is appropriate, apprentices will undertake an end point assessment, which is carried out by a separate approved organisation, independent from Myerscough College.

The end point assessment will contain 2 components:

- A Written and Online Test
- Practical Assessment

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



Progression

his standard is recognised by the Institute of Groundsmanship (IOG), the Professional Body for Sports Turf Operatives and others working in the grounds care industry. Upon achievement of this standard the apprentice will be eligible to join the IOG register of Turf Management Professionals.



How to apply

In order to start the enrolment process we need an **Online Application Form** to be completed & submitted. You can do this by contacting the Employer Services Team.

Telephone: 01995 642255, Email: employerenquiries@myerscough.ac.uk

Website: www.myerscough.ac.uk