

**Interested in an
Apprenticeship?**

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more information**

Animal care and veterinary nursing

Animal care and veterinary nursing are extremely rewarding vocations, with many opportunities in expanding animal related industries.

If you enjoy working with animals and have a genuine interest in animal welfare, then we can offer you an excellent environment in which to train for a career in this sector.

Gain hands on practical experience in our well-equipped and zoo licenced animal management centre, which has many brand new enclosures housing over 100 species of animals including domestic, exotic, zoological and aquatic with our ring tailed lemurs, coatis and marmosets amongst the many others.

We have established links with many zoos and wildlife parks around the country and our students are regularly engaged in new animal projects as the centre continues to develop.

We also have a canine grooming parlour on-site and access to a canine hydrotherapy unit and our dedicated veterinary nursing centre is equipped with a reception area and treatment, consultation, and operating rooms.

Career opportunities...

Working in veterinary surgeries, kennels and catteries, zoos, breeding, retail management, animal sanctuaries and marketing animal products are just some of the careers available to you if you study a course in animal care and veterinary nursing.

A photograph showing a person in profile on the left, wearing a dark jacket, reaching out with their right hand to feed a small green treat to a black and white dog. The dog is perched on a red rope structure, likely part of an agility course. The background is filled with trees and foliage, suggesting an outdoor setting. A dark, semi-transparent banner is overlaid on the top left of the image, containing white text.

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Animal care courses

Entry Level 2 and 3 - Certificate in Skills for Life Land Based (Animals)

Code LBI0237P / LBI0238P **Location** Kirkley Hall

Ideal if... you want to develop core skills within an animal care environment to work towards progression to a level 1 course. You will study units including small animal care, preparation for work, Functional Skills and personal social development.

Entry requirements

You don't need any formal qualifications to join the course but should have an interest in working with animals.

Level 1 - Diploma in Land Based Studies (Animal Care)

Code LBI0041F **Location** Kirkley Hall

Ideal if... you want to begin learning about animal care, including safe and effective working practices, animal species and maintaining the health and wellbeing of animals.

Entry requirements



You should have two GCSEs at grade F or a relevant entry level qualification.

Level 2 - Diploma in Animal Care

Code LBI0125F **Location** Kirkley Hall

Ideal if... you want an introduction to career opportunities in animal care and progression to a level 3 course. You will study units which include animal feeding, animal biology and animal behaviour and handling.

Entry requirements



You should have two GCSEs at grade D including English or maths and science, or a relevant level 1 qualification.

Level 2 - Apprenticeship Animal Care

Code LBI0135P **Location** Kirkley Hall

Ideal if... you work in the animal care industry and want to develop your skills and gain a qualification.

Entry requirements



You should have two GCSEs at grade D or above, including English and maths, or a relevant level 1 qualification and be employed in the animal care industry.

Level 3 - Subsidiary Diploma / Diploma / Extended Diploma in Animal Management

Code LBI0100F / LBI0245F / LBI0065F **Location** Kirkley Hall

Ideal if... you would like to pursue a career in animal management in a responsible position or progress to a related higher education course. If numbers permit, pathways to this qualification will be available in general animal management, zoo and science.

Entry requirements



You should have four GCSEs at grade C or above, including English or maths and science (if taking the science pathway) or a relevant level 2 qualification plus relevant work experience.

Veterinary nursing courses

Level 2 - Diploma for Veterinary Care Assistants

Code LBI0239P **Location** Kirkley Hall

Ideal if... you wish to pursue a career as a veterinary care assistant. This course allows progression onto the Level 3 Diploma in Veterinary Nursing. (If you wish to progress on to the Level 3 Diploma in Veterinary Nursing you need to have GCSEs at grade C or above in English, maths and science).

Entry requirements



You should have two GCSEs at grade D including English or maths and science or a relevant level 1 qualification. You must have a work experience placement within a veterinary practice and a genuine interest in the care and welfare of animals.

Level 3 - Advanced Apprenticeship Animal Care

Code TBC **Location** Kirkley Hall

Ideal if... you work in the animal care industry and want to develop your skills and gain a higher level qualification.

Entry requirements



You should have four GCSEs at grade C or above, including English and maths, or a relevant level 2 qualification and be employed in the animal care industry.

Level 3 - Diploma for Veterinary Nursing

Code TBC **Location** Kirkley Hall

Ideal if... you wish to pursue a career as a veterinary nurse, or progress to higher education upon completion.

Entry requirements



You should have five GCSEs at grade C or above, including English, maths and science, plus two additional GCSEs or the Level 2 Diploma for Veterinary Care Assistants at merit. You must have a work experience placement within a veterinary practice and a genuine interest in the care and welfare of animals.