



Animals

Local Information Sheet No. 17

The Work

Working with animals can be very satisfying, but you must be prepared for hard work. Jobs may be low paid and the conditions can be harsh. You may have to work unsocial hours in all weathers - remember animals need to be looked after every day of the year, come rain or shine. Working with animals includes: animal care; animal technology; agricultural livestock; aquaculture; equine; farriery fisheries management; game and wildlife management and veterinary nursing.

Other Local Information Sheets you might find useful:

No.1 Agriculture & Horticulture (includes arboriculture, countryside tourism/leisure, environmental conservation, forestry/woodland management, game/fishery management, garden design/construction, golf course management, greenkeeping, land/countryside management, landscaping, wildlife habitat management).

No.8 Garage Work, Mechanics and Agricultural Engineering.

No.13 Retail Sales and Warehousing (includes floristry).

What's Happening?

There are approximately 13,300 businesses in the UK currently employing around 47,500 people in animal care (such as pet shops, boarding kennels and catteries, pet breeders, dog training, dog grooming and so on). This sector is wider than this, and includes the following. 3,400 animal technologists work for 285 businesses. The agricultural livestock industry employs 304,200 people who work for 75,000 livestock farm businesses. 3,500 people work in aquaculture (the breeding and rearing of shellfish and finfish). Over 54,000 people work in 8,000 equine businesses. There are 2,455 farriers. 3,000 employers employ 6,000 game and wildlife people (many with dual roles on farms and estates). Finally there are 7,419 Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons listed veterinary nurses. The recent decline in agriculture has a knock-on effect on other rural industries such as animal care, agricultural engineering and land management. See Work Matters for more labour market information (see page eleven - Easy ways to get useful information).

Lantra – www.lantra.co.uk

Possible Job Titles

Animal Technician
Animal Groomer
Dog Handler
Dog Trainer

Horse Groom
Kennel Worker
Pest Control Technician
RSPCA Inspector

Veterinary Nurse
Veterinary Surgeon (Vet)
Zoo Keeper

For information about these jobs see section **WAB/WAD** of the Connexions library.

Your Options at 16 and 17

- **Further education at school or college** – continue to study, full or part-time, for a career or keep your future options open and simply continue to improve your qualifications.
- **Apprenticeships** (Level 2)/Advanced Apprenticeships (Level 3) – learn new skills with an employer, gain qualifications and get some real work experience. You will receive a wage, or, if you are eligible, an Education Maintenance Allowance of up to £30 a week.
- **Job** – regular, paid work that, with training, can lead to recognised qualifications.
- **e2e** (Entry to Employment) & **Pre-e2e** – programmes to help you prepare for a job, an Apprenticeship or further education.

For details of all these options speak to your Connexions personal adviser or see page eleven – Easy ways to get useful information.

Section 1

Further education: what's available locally and how to apply.

- This sheet lists full-time vocational courses. Other courses and ways of learning may be available.
- **Futures4Me** – explore all post-16 learning and training opportunities available in the West of England.
- Contact colleges/sixth form colleges for information and an application form. They all have websites.
- Go to open evenings and information events. See page eleven – Easy ways to get useful information.
- Ask colleges/sixth form colleges how well previous students have done on their courses.
- Use your school's Connexions Information Centre for information about local colleges and sixth forms.
- Higher education, Apprenticeships, a job with training, self-employment or time out to travel or do voluntary work are all options after college/sixth form college.
- Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) is a weekly payment to help with costs if you go into the sixth form, college or go into training. Other financial support exists to help with travel, specialist courses, books and equipment and childcare. Terms and conditions apply to all. For more information - <http://moneytolearn.direct.gov.uk>

CITY OF BRISTOL COLLEGE – THE PARK CENTRE
 Daventry Road, Knowle, Bristol, BS4 2LF
 Tel: 0117 903 9772
 Website: www.cityofbristol.ac.uk

Land & Environment – BTEC Introductory Certificate/Diploma

(1 year). Entry is through an interview process and is based on discussion with course tutor. The BTEC Introductory Certificate/Diploma in Land and Environment will provide you with a broad introduction to the land-based vocational sector with the emphasis on caring for animals. You will be involved in the care of a variety of species kept within our Animal Care department at The Park Centre and horses and ponies at HorseWorld.

Animal Care – BTEC First Diploma

(1 year). Entry requirements are 2 GCSEs grade C or 4 GCSEs grade D. You will also need to attend an interview. The course will provide you with the opportunity to gain a sound knowledge and understanding of how to care for a wide variety of animals. You will have both practical and theoretical sessions and also voluntary work experience at a placement of your choice. You will be involved in the care of the variety of species kept within our animal care department and at HorseWorld.

Animal Care – BTEC National Certificate/Diploma

(2 years). Entry requirements are 4 GCSEs at grade C and above or a BTEC First qualification at Merit or above. You will also need a personal interview. The BTEC National Certificate/Diploma in Animal Care will provide you with the opportunity to gain an extensive knowledge and understanding of how to care for a wide variety of animals through practical and theoretical sessions and voluntary work experience at a placement of your choosing. You will be involved in the care of a variety of species kept within our Animal Care department at The Park Centre and horses and ponies at HorseWorld.

FILTON COLLEGE

Filton Avenue, Filton, Bristol BS34 7AT
 Tel: 0117 931 2121
 Website: www.filton.ac.uk

Animal Care – First Diploma

(1 year). Entry requirements are 4 GCSEs grade D or better to include Double Science and Maths or English Language or a Merit in Introductory Diploma Land and Environment combined with a Key Skills Literacy qualification.

Animal Management – BTEC National Award/Certificate

(1/2 years). National Award entry requirements are 4 GCSEs grade A - C or BTEC First Diploma at Merit in Animal Care. National Certificate entry requirements are 4 GCSEs grade A - C including Science or Merit Grade in BTEC First Diploma including a Merit in Introduction to Animal and Plant Biology. For mature students practical experience may be acceptable.

Animal Management – National Diploma

(2 years). Entry requirements are five GCSEs grade A - C which must include English and Double Science or First Diploma in Animal Care (Distinction Grade) (must have Merit grade for Biology unit) and Key Skills Literacy at Level 2. For mature students practical experience may be acceptable.

Land and Environment – Introductory Level 1 Course

(1 year). No formal entry requirements but students are expected to be working towards Level 1 in Literacy and Numeracy. Suitable for young people who have an interest in the land based sector; the course is very practical with assignment assessed work throughout the programme.

Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons (RCVS) Veterinary Nursing – Level 2 & 3

(1 year). You must find paid, full-time employment within a practice approved by the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons (RCVS) as a Training Practice (TP). You must be enrolled as a student veterinary nurse with the RCVS before applying for the course. You must be at least 17 years old and have 5 Cs at GCSE level, including English Language, Science and Mathematics, or an equivalent qualification such as the British Veterinary Nursing Association (BVNA) Certificate in Animal Nursing. You will also need to be successful at interview.

Skills for Working Life (Land-based) – BTEC Entry Level Certificate

(Contact for length of course). No entry requirements; suitable for young people who have an interest in working in the land based sector. The course is very practical with practical assessments throughout the programme.

Animal Nursing Assistant – British Veterinary Nursing Association (BVNA) Certificate – Level 2

(1 year). There are no minimum academic entry requirements for this course, but each candidate must find paid, full time employment within a Veterinary Practice (not necessarily an Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons approved centre). You should be working in all areas of the practice. You will also need to be successful at interview.

NORTON RADSTOCK COLLEGE

South Hill Park, Radstock, Bath BA3 3RW

Tel: 01761 433161

Website: www.nortcoll.ac.uk

Animal Care courses are taught at:

The Animal Care Centre,

Bath Road, Keynsham, Bristol BS31 1TL

Tel: 0117 986 3898

Animal Nursing Assistants (VR4 Level 2) – ABC/BWA Certificate

No formal entry requirements but prospective candidates must be employed in a Veterinary Practice - not necessarily an approved training centre. Prospective candidates need to be registered with the British Veterinary Nursing Association (BVNA) as a student. The course includes Biological Science, Basic Nursing, Husbandry, Reception and administration.

Animal Care – EDEXCEL First Diploma

(1 year). Entry requirements are 4 GCSEs including a couple of C grades, ideally in Science or NVQ2. All students must attend a work placement throughout the year. Course includes animal care, animal nursing and care of exotics.

Animal Care – EDEXCEL National Diploma

(2 years). Entry requirements are 4 GCSEs grades A - C, to include science or First Diploma with an overall merit. All students must attend a work placement during the 2nd year and an 8 week block placement in the first year. Course includes practical animal handling and husbandry, nutrition and animal nursing.

Animal Care – NVQ 1

(1 year). There are no formal entry requirements, just a genuine interest in animals. The course is of a practical nature and all students must attend a work placement. Course includes, assisting in the on-going care, moving and handling of animals.

Animal Care – NVQ 2 (NVQ 3 option is also available)

(1 year). Entry requirements are 4 GCSEs grade D or above or NVQ 1. The course is of a practical nature and all students must attend a work placement throughout the year. Course includes, promoting and maintaining the welfare of animals, exercising and grooming.

Horse Care – NVQ 2 (NVQ 1 option is also available)

(1 year). Entry requirements are NVQ 1 or 4 GCSEs grade D or above as well as a genuine interest in working with horses. There is an expectation that students will be able to show basic riding ability. This course is designed for school leavers and mature students who have an interest in equine studies. In the classroom you will learn the underpinning knowledge. Two days will be spent in the classroom and one day at an equine centre attending practical sessions.

WESTON COLLEGE

Knightstone Road, Weston-Super-Mare BS23 2AL

Tel: 01934 411411

Website: www.weston.ac.uk**Animal Care – BTEC First Diploma**

(1 Year). Entry requirements are at least 4 GCSEs in the C - E range, preferably two at grade C or above. Alternatively you will need an appropriate Level 1 qualification (with a Merit grade). An interest in working with animals and some experience in caring for animals is also required.

Animal Management – BTEC National Diploma

(2 Years). Entry requirements are at least 5 GCSEs in the A - C range, preferably to include Maths and English Language. Alternatively you will need an appropriate Level 2 qualification such as a BTEC First Diploma in Animal Care (with Merit grades).

Horse Care – BTEC First Diploma

(1 Year). You will need at least 4 GCSEs in the C - E range, preferably to include two at grade C or above. Alternatively you will need an appropriate Level 1 qualification. Some riding experience and knowledge of horses is also required. Before starting the course you will be given a riding assessment. Please note it is possible to complete the First Diploma in Horse Care without taking the riding option.

Horse Management – BTEC National Diploma

(2 Years). You will need at least 5 GCSEs in the A - C range, including English Language and Maths. Alternatively you will need an appropriate Level 2 qualification accompanied by GCSEs in Maths and English Language grades A - C or equivalent (for example Key Skills Level 2 in Communication and Application of Number). Some riding skills are essential and before starting the course you will be given a riding assessment.

Land and Environment – BTEC Introductory Diploma

(1 Year) Entry requirements are at least some GCSEs in the C - E range and you must be able to demonstrate an interest in the subject and a willingness to study this course.

What's available outside the area?**BICTON COLLEGE**

East Budleigh, Budleigh Salterton, Devon EX9 7BY

Tel: 01395 562400

Website: www.bicton.ac.uk**Animal Care – Introductory Diploma in Vocational Studies Level 1**

(1 year). Entry requirements: while there are no academic entry requirements, students will need to demonstrate an interest in the animal care industry and have sound reading, writing and numeracy skills. Entrance to the course is by interview. Bicton Animal Care Centre and Veterinary Practice provide a real-life working environment on-site, suitable for applying theoretical studies to practical experience.

Animal Care – First Diploma Level 2

(1 year). Entry requirements 4 GCSEs at Grade D or above, to include Maths, English and Science, or NVQ 1 or equivalent such as NVQ Animal Care or Introductory Diploma in Vocational Studies (Animal Care), or appropriate experience and knowledge gained in a related working environment. Entrance to the course is by interview. A variety of animal care related subjects are studied together with Key Skills at an appropriate level. In addition, there will be a five week period of industrial work experience and an opportunity to choose from optional units. Bicton Animal Care Centre and Veterinary Practice provide a real-life working environment on-site, suitable for applying theoretical studies to practical experience.

Animal Management – National Diploma Level 3

(2 years). Entry requirements are 4 GCSEs Grades A - C, including English, Maths and Science, or a good pass in a related NVQ 2, or BTEC First Diploma or City and Guilds National Certificate or equivalent. Entrance to the course is by interview. You will study a wide range of animal care subjects. Students will also complete a ten-week period of work experience. There are opportunities to gain other nationally recognised qualifications such as key skills, food hygiene, welcome host and First Aid. Bicton Animal Care Centre and Veterinary Practice provide a real-life working environment on-site, suitable for applying theoretical studies to practical experience.

Animal Nursing Assistant (Approved by the British Veterinary Nursing Association)

(1 year). Entry requirements: this course is suitable if you are a school leaver with insufficient GCSEs to register as a Student Veterinary Nurse, or have sufficient GCSE requirements, but under 17 years of age, or unsure of your chosen career. Successful completion of this programme will enable students, who have not previously achieved the necessary GCSEs as stipulated by the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons, entry onto the Student Veterinary Nursing Programme. It also allows the development of underpinning knowledge for those who are below 17 years of age or who wish to work as reception or lay staff within

practice. Bicton Animal Care Centre and Veterinary Practice provide a real-life working environment on-site, suitable for applying theoretical studies to practical experience.

Student Veterinary Nursing (Approved by the British Veterinary Nursing Association)

(2 years). Entry requirements: 5 GCSEs grade C or above, including English, Maths and Science. Alternatively, you may have achieved the British Veterinary Nursing Association's Animal Nursing Assistant Certificate (Pre-Veterinary Nursing Certificate). Other qualifications such as the National Diploma in Animal Care can be used as an equivalent. The RCVS should be contacted for a full list of equivalent examinations. You will need to be 16 years of age or over and employed within a Training Practice in order to enrol as a Student Veterinary Nurse with the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons. Entrance to the course is by interview, and will be subject to receipt of satisfactory references. Bicton Animal Care Centre and Veterinary Practice provide a real-life working environment on-site, suitable for applying theoretical studies to practical experience.

Horse Care - First Diploma Level 2

(1 year). Entry Requirements are 4 GCSE grades D or above to include Maths, English and Science, or NVQ 1 or equivalent, plus 2 weeks work experience prior to the start of the course. Entrance to the course is based on interview and satisfactory reference. Any riding at the College is subject to a satisfactory riding assessment. The programme provides a sound basic training in the care and management of horses. Any riding at the college is subject to a satisfactory riding assessment. Bicton Equestrian Centre is a BHS Approved training establishment providing a real-life working environment on-site, suitable for applying theoretical studies to practical experience.

Horse Management – National Certificate in Level 3

(2 years). Entry Requirements are 4 GCSEs Grades A - C, including English and Maths, or a good pass in a related NVQ 2, or BTEC First Diploma, or City and Guilds National Certificate or equivalent. Entrance to the course is by interview. The programme is especially useful for the education and training for people who care for horses and are employed or hoping to be employed in riding stables, stud farms or livery stables. Any riding at the College is subject to a satisfactory riding assessment. Bicton Equestrian Centre is a BHS Approved training establishment providing a real-life working environment on-site, suitable for applying theoretical studies to practical experience.

Horse Management – National Diploma Level 3

(2 years). Entry requirements are 4 GCSEs at grades A - C, including English and Maths, or a good pass in the related NVQ 2, or BTEC First Diploma, or City and Guilds National Certificate or equivalent. The programme provides students with comprehensive training in all aspects of management within the horse industry and also enables them to take the BHS examinations. Any riding at the College is subject to a satisfactory riding assessment. Bicton Equestrian Centre is a BHS Approved training establishment providing a real-life working environment on-site, suitable for applying theoretical studies to practical experience.

Horse Care – Apprenticeship Level 2

(2 years). Entry requirements GCSEs and Initial Assessment Level 1 would be an advantage along with relevant experience and knowledge of your chosen industry. Entrance to the course is by interview. You will require a good reference and a suitable work placement. Bicton College can help you to find one. Any riding at the College is subject to a satisfactory riding assessment. Bicton Equestrian Centre is a BHS Approved training establishment providing a real-life working environment on-site, suitable for applying theoretical studies to practical experience.

Horse Care and Management – Advanced Apprenticeship Level 3

(2 years). Entry requirements GCSEs and Initial Assessment Level 2 would be an advantage along with relevant experience and knowledge of your chosen industry. Entrance to the course is by interview. You will require a good reference and a suitable work placement. Bicton College can help you to find one. Any riding at the College is subject to a satisfactory riding assessment. Bicton Equestrian Centre is a BHS Approved training establishment providing a real-life working environment on-site, suitable for applying theoretical studies to practical experience.

BRIDGWATER COLLEGE – CANNINGTON CENTRE FOR LAND-BASED STUDIES

Cannington, Nr. Bridgwater, Somerset TA5 2LS

Tel: 01278 441234

Website: www.bridgwater.ac.uk

Horse Care – NVQ Level 1

(1 year). Entry requirements are GCSEs in the D – G range and Basic Skills at Level 3. Entry is also subject to a successful interview. Course covers: Grooming, feeding, handling, health and safety, taking and rugging up.

Horse Care – NVQ Level 2

(1 year). You will need to have achieved the NVQ Level 1 in Horse Care or BHS Stage 1 Certificate. The course is designed to help you develop the range of skills necessary for success in the equine industry.

Veterinary Care Assistants – City & Guilds Certificate

(1 year). You will need to be employed or working voluntarily in a veterinary practice, but no formal qualifications are required. Topics include: anatomy, physiology, animal management, practice management, first aid and general nursing. This course is ideal for those working in a veterinary practice, but do not have the required GCSEs to take the RCVS veterinary nursing course.

Animal Care – BTEC First Diploma

(1 year). Entry requirements are 4 GCSEs grades C - E. Course includes: exotic animals, animal housing and animal nursing and work experience. Progression to National Award/Certificate/Diploma or employment.

Animal Management – BTEC National Award

(1 year – Paignton Centre , 2 years – Cannington Centre). Entry requirements are 5 GCSEs grades A - C, including English and Science or an appropriate Level 2 qualification. Entry is also subject to a successful interview. Course covers: animal health, animal behaviour, practical handling and management, business management, wildlife rehabilitation and management, and animal nursing.

Animal Management – BTEC National Diploma

(2 years). Entry requirements are 5 GCSEs at grades A - C, including English and Science or an appropriate Level 2 qualification. The course is ideal for anyone wishing to pursue a career in animal care management.

Horse Care – BTEC First Diploma

(1 year). Entry requirements are 4 GCSEs grades C - E, including English, or an appropriate Level 1 qualification. The course is designed to give a basic introduction to biology, horseriding, horse care, horse preparation and presentation.

Horse Management – BTEC National Diploma

(2 years). Entry requirements are at least 5 GCSEs grades A - C, including Science and English, or an appropriate Level 2 qualification. You will also need to be a competent rider. The course is designed for people who wish to pursue a career in horse management. Subjects studied include equitation theory and practical, breeding, health, event management, riding over fences, breed development and welfare, equine fitness and training, the equine industry and anatomy and physiology.

Land Based Studies: Animal and Horse Care – City and Guilds Certificate

(1 year). Entry requirements are 4 GCSEs grades D - G or other equivalent qualifications. The course is designed for people who wish to work in the land based industries.

Horse Care & Management – NVQ Level 3

(2 years.) An NVQ Level 2 in Horse Care or related subject or BHS Stage 2 certificate. You will also need to be in a supervisory position in a yard. Course topics include: preparing the horse for work, planning a work routine, horse health, and health and safety. This programme also allows you to select options ranging from exercising, work horses to improve fitness, schooling horses and competition horses.

HARTPURY COLLEGE

Hartpury House, Hartpury, Gloucester GL19 3BE

Tel: 01452 700132

Website: www.hartpury.ac.uk

Animal Care – First Certificate

(2 years). Students will have an interest in animal care and a will to achieve.

Horse Care – First Certificate

(2 years). Students will have an interest in equine and a will to achieve.

Animal Care – BTEC First Certificate

(1 year). Entry requirements are 4 GCSEs grades D - G with at least one grade D in English, Maths or Science. During your year you will study aspects of the health, husbandry and care of a wide variety of animals.

Animal Care – BTEC First Diploma

(1 year). Entry requirements are 2 GCSEs grade D in any subject or a relevant further education qualification. You will be able to gain vital work experience in a range of animal associated businesses.

Animal Management – BTEC National Award

(1 year). Entry requirements are 2 GCSEs grade C in any subject, one of which must be in English, Maths or Science or a relevant further education qualification. The wide range of species kept within the Animal Care department of Hartpury College will bring your academic studies to life, enabling you to study first-hand animal health, biology, handling and husbandry.

Animal Management – BTEC National Certificate

(1 year). Entry requirements are the successful completion of the BTEC Award in Animal Management. You will be able to gain vital work experience in a range of animal associated businesses.

Animal Management – BTEC National Diploma

(2 years). Entry requirements are 4 GCSEs grade C in any subject, two of which must be in English,

Maths or Science or a relevant further education qualification. The wide range of species kept within the Animal Care Department of Hartpury College will bring your academic studies to life, enabling you to study first-hand animal health, biology, handling and husbandry.

Horse Care – BTEC First Diploma

(1 year). Entry requirements are 2 GCSEs grade D in any subject or a relevant further education qualification. It is also essential that you can walk, trot and canter in a safe and controlled manner. This First Diploma will provide you with the opportunity to gain a sound knowledge and understanding in horse care and riding through both theory-based and practical sessions.

Horse Management – BTEC National Award

(1 year). Entry requirements are 2 GCSEs grade C in any subject, one of which must be in English, Maths or Science or a relevant further education qualification. This National Award will provide you with the opportunity to gain a good grounding in key aspects of horse management and equitation.

Horse Management – BTEC National Certificate

(1 year). Entry requirements are the successful completion of the BTEC national Award Horse Management at Merit or Distinction level. This National Certificate will provide you with the opportunity to develop a more in-depth understanding of horse management as well as gain specialist knowledge in equitation or breeding, dependent on the units you choose to study.

Horse Management (Business) – BTEC National Diploma

(2 years). Entry requirements are 4 GCSEs grade C in any subject, two of which must be in English, Maths or Science or a relevant further education qualification. This National Diploma has been designed to provide you with the opportunity to gain detailed academic knowledge and understanding on all aspects of horse management and industry. You will study both business and equine related units.

Horse Management (Breeding) – BTEC National Diploma

(2 years). Entry requirements are 4 GCSEs grade C in any subject, two of which must be in English, Maths or Science or a relevant further education qualification. Designed to provide you with the opportunity to gain detailed academic knowledge and understanding on all aspects of horse breeding through both theory-based and practical sessions.

Horse Management (Equitation) – BTEC National Diploma

(3 years). Four Cs at GCSE level in any subject, two of which must be in English, Maths or Science or a relevant further education qualification. It is essential that you can walk, trot and canter in a safe and controlled manner. You must be riding at least at BHS Stage 1 standard. This National Diploma has been designed to provide you with the opportunity to gain detailed academic knowledge and an in-depth understanding of horse management and equitation through theory based and practical sessions.

HEREFORDSHIRE COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY – HOLME LACY CAMPUS

Holme Lacy, Hereford, HR2 6LL

Tel: 01432 870316

Website www.hct.ac.uk

Animal Care – BTEC Introductory Diploma

Please contact the college for further details.

Animal Care – BTEC First Diploma

(1 year). Entry requirements are 2 GCSEs grade D or above or equivalent qualifications or experience. This programme is designed for students with no previous experience of Animal Care to gain a good understanding of the industry and the practical skills needed for employment. The course combines lectures and demonstrations with practical instruction and industrial visits.

Animal Management – BTEC National Diploma

(2 Years). Entry requirements are 4 GCSEs grade C or above or BTEC First Diploma (at least Merit grade) / NVQ Level 2 in an Animal Care subject / Units towards NVQ Level 2 in a related subject. This course is based on lectures, practical duties and work experience and is equivalent to three A levels. It is ideal if you are intending to work within the animal industry and want to learn more about the wider concepts relating to the management of animals.

Horse Care – BTEC First Certificate

(1 year). Entry requirements are 2 GCSEs grade D or above or equivalent qualifications or experience. This programme is designed for students with little or no previous experience of Horse Care to gain a good understanding of the Equine Industry and the practical skills needed for employment. The course combines lectures and demonstrations with practical instruction and industrial visits.

Horse Care – BTEC First Diploma

(1 year). Entry requirements are 2 GCSEs grade D or above or equivalent qualifications or experience. This programme is designed for students with little or no previous experience of Horse Care to gain a good understanding of the Equine Industry and the practical skills needed for employment. The course combines lectures and demonstrations with practical instruction and industrial visits.

Horse Management – BTEC National Certificate

(1 year). Entry requirements are 4 GCSEs grade C or above or BTEC First Diploma (minimum of Merit grade) / NVQ level 2 in an equine subject or equivalent qualification. This course provides a specialist work - related programme of study that covers key knowledge and practical skills required in the Equine Industry. This course is the equivalent to 2 A levels. The course will introduce students to a range of horse management settings. It is intended for individuals who want a direct route into employment in the Equine Industry or as a progression route to further qualifications.

Horse Management – BTEC National Diploma

(2 years). Entry requirements are 4 GCSEs grade C or above (including Maths and English) or BTEC First Diploma in Horse Care (minimum Merit grade) / NVQ Level 2 in a horse care subject / Equivalent qualifications and experience. This course is based on lectures, practical duties and work experience and is equivalent to three A-levels. You will gain experience in a range of equine based activities, through theory work and work experience. The course develops and improves the student's knowledge and experience with horses and further develops their skills to be able to work effectively in equestrian establishments or progress to higher-level courses. As well as the broad themes of science, equine skills and business management, the course will also enable you to develop supervisory and other management skills.

PERSHORE COLLEGE

Avonbank, Pershore, Worcestershire WR10 3JP

Tel: 01386 552443

Website: www.warkscol.ac.uk

Land Based Operations (Animal Care Option) – First Certificate

(1 year). Entry requirements are 3 GCSEs grade E, two of which must be in English, Maths or Science (or equivalent) and to show a commitment to animal welfare. This course is designed for young people who are interested in working with companion animals in kennels, catteries, animal sanctuaries and pet shops.

Animal Care – First Diploma

(1 year). Entry requirements are a minimum of 4 GCSEs grade D to include English and Maths or Science (or equivalent), and to show a commitment to animal welfare. Experience of working with animals would be an advantage. This course is designed for young people who are interested in working with companion animals in kennels, catteries, animal sanctuaries, pet shops, veterinary nursing, animal charities and who may wish to gain higher qualifications.

Animal Management – BTEC National Award

(1 year). Entry requirements are 4 GCSEs grade C or above, a BTEC First Diploma (at least merit grade), or an NVQ2 Level 2 in an Animal Care Subject, a Unit towards NVQ Level 2 in a related subject, or equivalent qualifications and experience. This course is designed for people who are interested in working with companion animals in kennels, catteries, animal sanctuaries, pet shops, veterinary nursing, animal charities and who may wish to gain higher qualifications.

Animal Management – BTEC National Certificate

(2 years). Entry requirements are 4 GCSEs grade C grade including English and Maths or Science, or a First Diploma, an equivalent Level 2 qualification at an overall Pass, including a Merit overall in Animal Care and Industrial Experience. This course is designed for students who are interested in working with companion animals and who wish to ultimately find a supervisory position in an animal establishment. The National Certificate can also be a route for students who may wish to pursue veterinary nursing as a career.

Animal Management – BTEC National Diploma

(2 years). Entry requirements are 4 GCSEs grade C grade including English and Maths or Science, or a First Diploma, an equivalent Level 2 qualification, with a Merit grade in Introduction to Biology, Animal Care and Industrial experience. This course is designed for students who are interested in working with companion animals and who wish to ultimately find a management position in an animal establishment. The National Diploma is also a route for students wishing to pursue veterinary nursing as a career. Other students progress on to Higher Education courses as the Diploma is the equivalent to 3 A-levels.

SPARSHOLT COLLEGE

Sparsholt, Winchester, Hampshire SO21 2NF

Tel: 01962 776441

Website: www.sparsholt.ac.uk

Animal Care – BTEC First Diploma (Level 2)

(1 year). Entry requirements are 4 GCSEs at grade D or above. Course includes: management of mammals, birds, fish and small reptiles, kennel and cattery management.

Animal Management – BTEC National Certificate -- Level 3

(2 years). Entry requirements are 4 GCSEs at grades A - C including English, Maths and a Science.

Course includes: animal handling, housing, behaviour and nutrition and relates to careers with domestic pets, wildlife, exotic, zoo and farm animals. It will relate to careers with domestic animals, wildlife, exotic, zoo and farm animals.

Animal Management – BTEC National Diploma – Level 3

(2 years). Entry requirements are 5 GCSEs at grades A - C including English, Maths and a Science.

Course includes: animal handling, housing, behaviour, and nutrition and relates to careers with domestic pets, wildlife, exotic, zoo and farm animals. It will relate to careers with domestic animals, wildlife, exotic, zoo and farm animals.

Animal Care – City & Guilds Advanced National Certificate and Diploma – Level 3

(1 year for the certificate and a further year for the Diploma). Entry requirements are 4 GCSEs at grades A - C, Science at Grade D or above. Course includes: animal science, animal handling and safe working, advanced animal health care, animal housing and feeding.

Horse Management – BTEC First Diploma – Level 2

(1 year). Entry requirements are 4 GCSEs at grade D or above. Course includes: equine health and biology, horse industry and organisations, introduction to horse care, horse handling and exercise, and horseriding.

Horse Management – BTEC National Certificate – Level 3

(2 years). Entry requirements are 4 GCSEs at grades A - C or equivalent, including English. Course includes: equine science, husbandry and welfare, nutrition and stable skills. Riding and non-riding options are available.

Horse Management – BTEC National Diploma – Level 3

(2 years). Entry requirements are 5 GCSEs at grades A - C or equivalent, including English. Course includes: equine science, husbandry and welfare, horse biology and behaviour, nutrition, stable skills and business management.

WILTSHIRE COLLEGE LACKHAM

Lacock, Chippenham, Wiltshire SN15 2NY

Tel: 01249 466800

Website: www.wiltshire.ac.uk

Animal Care – BTEC First Diploma

(1 year). Entry requirements are 4 GCSEs grades A - E and to be able to demonstrate a keen and genuine interest in working with animals. Course includes: Academic and practical animal care skills and working with a wide range of animals. Academic units in animal biology, animal accommodation and care, animal health, and care of exotic animals.

Animal Care (Horse Care) – BTEC First Diploma

(1 year). Entry requirements are 4 GCSEs grade E or above including Maths (or Application of Number level 1) and Science; or Introductory Diploma in Land and Environment at Merit level. Course includes: Theory and practical horse care skills, active participation at local equine events. Animal Biology, Animal Accommodation and Equine Health Care. The course actively promotes industry experience with learners required to undertake a work placement within the equine industry.

Animal Management (Animal Care and Welfare) – BTEC National Diploma

(2 years). Entry requirements are 4 GCSEs grade C or above; or BTEC First Diploma at Merit level in a relevant subject area plus Application of Number or Communications Level 1. Course includes: A wide range of animal care experiences, providing academic and practical skills for entry into employment. Handling and caring for a wide range of species including mammals, reptiles and birds, domestic pets and farm livestock.

Animal Management (Animal Management) – BTEC National Diploma

(2 years). Entry requirements are 4 GCSEs grade C or above including Maths (or Application in Number Level 2) and English (or Communications Level 2); or BTEC First Diploma at Merit level in a relevant subject area plus Application of Number or Communications Level 1. Course includes: Managing a wide range of species including mammals, reptiles and birds, domestics and farm livestock.

Animal Management (Equine Management) – BTEC National Diploma

(2 years). Entry requirements are 4 GCSEs grade C or above including Maths (or Application in Number Level 2) and English (or Communications Level 2); or BTEC First Diploma at Merit level in a relevant subject area plus Application of Number or Communications Level 1. Course includes: an introduction to animal management for learners with a specific interest in the equine sector; practical yard duties at local equine centres working in partnership with the college. These sessions will promote teamwork and develop horse husbandry skills; sessions may also include the opportunity to ride.

Animal Management (Exotics and Collections) – BTEC National Diploma

(2 years). Entry requirements are 4 GCSEs grade C or above including Maths (or Application in Number

Level 2) and English (or Communications Level 2); or BTEC First Diploma at Merit level in a relevant subject area plus Application of Number or Communications Level 1. Course includes: Skills associated with working in a zoo or wildlife collection, practical experience at our Animal Centre which holds a Dangerous Wild Animal license. Skills in managing a diverse range of species. You will work alongside exotic mammals, reptiles, exotic birds, alongside domestic pets and rare breed livestock.

Animal Management (Animal Science) – BTEC National Diploma

(2 years). Entry requirements are 4 GCSEs grades A - C, English, Maths/Science plus one other subject. Course includes: biological science, anatomy and physiology, animal welfare and society, nutrition, animal health, breeding and behaviour ecology and science subjects. Ideal for progression to higher education and/or veterinary nursing. This course includes a work experience placement.

Section 2

Year 12 (Sixth Form)

- Choose from a wide range of courses including AS/A2 Levels, GCSEs, Diplomas, National Diplomas, NVQs and other work related courses.
- Contact sixth forms for information and an application form. They all have websites.
- Go to open evenings and information events. See page eleven – Easy ways to get useful information.
- Ask sixth forms how well previous students have done on their courses.
- Use your school's Connexions Information Centre for information about local sixth forms.
- Additional further education, higher education, Apprenticeships, a job with training, self-employment or time out to travel or do voluntary work are all options after the sixth form.
- Educational Maintenance Allowance is a weekly payment to help you continue to learn or train. EMA is worth up to £30 a week. Other financial support exists to help with travel, specialist courses, books and equipment and childcare. Terms and conditions apply to all. For more information – <http://moneytolearn.direct.gov.uk>

Section 3

Apprenticeships and Jobs

Both of these options allow you to learn new skills with an employer and get some real work experience – but only an Apprenticeship will guarantee you training and the chance to gain qualifications. You will receive a wage, or, if you are eligible, an Education Maintenance Allowance of up to £30 a week. See page eleven – Easy ways to get useful information.

For a list of training suppliers locally contact the RCVS (regulatory body for veterinary surgeons in the UK): The Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons, Belgravia House, 62-64 Horseferry Road, London SW1P 2AF. Tel: 020 7222 2001. Email: admin@rcvs.org.uk. Website: www.rcvs.org.uk

Local Apprenticeships

Animal Care

- **The College of Animal Welfare**, 6 Eaton Court Road, Colmforth Business Park, Eaton Socon, St. Neots, Cambridgeshire PE19 8ER. 01480 226180. Penny Corbin. pcorbin@caw.ac.uk
- **Weston College**, Knightstone Road, Weston-super-Mare, North Somerset BS23 2AL. 01934 411411. Peggy Tovey. peggy.tovey@weston.ac.uk

Horse Care

- **City of Bristol College**, College Green Centre, St Georges Road, Bristol BS1 5UA. 0117 312 5007. Claire Arbery. claire.arbery@cityofbristol.ac.uk
- **Weston College**, Knightstone Road, Weston-super-Mare, North Somerset BS23 2AL. 01934 411411. Peggy Tovey. peggy.tovey@weston.ac.uk

Veterinary Nursing

- **The College of Animal Welfare**, 6 Eaton Court Road, Colmforth Business Park, Eaton Socon, St. Neots, Cambridgeshire PE19 8ER. 01480 226180. Penny Corbin. pcorbin@caw.ac.uk

Local Advanced Apprenticeships

Animal Care

- **Filton College**, Filton Avenue, Bristol BS34 7AT. 0117 909 2223. Claire Thorogood. claire.thorogood@filton.ac.uk
- **The College of Animal Welfare**, 6 Eaton Court Road, Colmforth Business Park, Eaton Socon, St. Neots, Cambridgeshire PE19 8ER. 01480 226180. Penny Corbin. pcorbin@caw.ac.uk
- **Weston College**, Knightstone Road, Weston-super-Mare, North Somerset BS23 2AL. 01934 411411. Peggy Tovey. peggy.tovey@weston.ac.uk

Horse Care

- **Weston College**, Knightstone Road, Weston-super-Mare, North Somerset BS23 2AL. 01934 411411. Peggy Tovey. peggy.tovey@weston.ac.uk

Veterinary Nursing

- **Filton College**, Filton Avenue, Bristol BS34 7AT. 0117 909 2223. Claire Thorogood. claire.thorogood@filton.ac.uk

Placements in the Bristol area can be difficult to find.

For more on Apprenticeships

- www.apprenticeships.org.uk – visit the National Apprenticeship website for information including the National Apprenticeship Vacancy Matching Service (scroll down and click on the ‘Apprenticeship Vacancies’ link). This service lets you search for Apprenticeship vacancies in a variety of ways, such as by occupational area, provider or by postcode.
- **08000 150 600** – Call the National Apprenticeship Hotline for help and advice.
- If you are still not sure and need help, please contact careers staff in your school/college or your local Connexions West of England Centre (addresses at end of this leaflet).

Time Off for study or training

- The right to Time Off for Study or training is designed to help you if you are aged 16-17, got few if any qualifications at school, and are now employed in a job which offers little or no training.
- For more information – www.connexions-direct.com – look under work>work schemes>time off for study and training.

Easy ways to get useful information

- www.connexionswest.org.uk – information for 13-19 year olds; vacancies; local support agencies; education & training database; publication downloads.
- <http://options.connexionswest.org.uk> – Your Way Forward - Options @ 16 and 17. Post-16 learning, training and work options; qualifications; sources of finance; useful websites.
- <http://workmatters.connexionswest.org.uk> – Information about working in the local area; how much people earn; number of people employed; types of jobs; useful websites.
- **Futures4Me** – explore all post-16 learning and training opportunities available in the West of England.

Connexions West of England Centres are open Monday – Friday. Contact direct for opening hours.

Bristol
4 Colston Avenue
Bristol BS1 4ST
Tel: 0117 987 3700
Fax: 0117 987 3701
Minicom: 0117 907 4514

Bath & North East Somerset
28 Southgate
Bath BA1 1TP
Tel: 01225 461 501
Fax: 01225 465 619

South Gloucestershire
21-23 High Street
Kingswood
Bristol BS15 4AA
Tel: 0117 961 2760
Fax: 0117 960 7838

South Gloucestershire
28 Gloucester Rd North
Filton
Bristol BS7 0SJ
Tel: 0117 969 8101
Fax: 0117 931 2978

North Somerset
45 Boulevard
Weston-super-Mare
BS23 1PG
Tel: 01934 644443
Fax: 01934 644409

www.connexionswest.org.uk
enquiries@connexionswest.org.uk

Connexions Direct (confidential information, advice and support for young people)
Tel: 080 800 13 2 19. Text: 07766 4 13 2 19. www.connexions-direct.com

The information in this leaflet was correct at the time of writing. Please check details - information dates quickly.

Produced by Red Bridge Solutions Ltd - enquiries@redbridgesolutions.co.uk