

LANAnC18 - SQA Unit Code HA7A 04

Provide exercise opportunities for animals



Overview

This standard covers providing opportunities for animals to exercise. It is not designed to specify the standards of exercise that apply to animals that are trained for competitive purposes.

You will need to be fully aware of the importance of health, safety and animal welfare in connection with this work.

You will need to be aware of your own limitations and ensure that you meet the legal responsibilities for duty of care under animal health and welfare legislation.

This standard is suitable for anyone whose work provides opportunities for animals that need to exercise.

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Performance criteria

You must be able to:

- P1 comply with relevant animal health and welfare, and other animal-related legislation and associated codes of practice at all times
- P2 carry out all work in accordance with relevant environmental and health and safety legislation, risk assessment requirements, codes of practice and company policies
- P3 maintain appropriate levels of hygiene and bio-security
- P4 use safe practices and appropriate personal protective equipment
- P5 prepare the animals for exercise in a manner that allows them to make optimum use of it
- P6 confirm that the exercise area is as safe and secure as possible
- P7 provide exercise opportunities that are suitable for the animals concerned and meet their particular requirements
- P8 maintain the health, safety and well-being of the animal prior to, and after, exercise, following the correct procedures for the animal concerned
- P9 keep accurate and up-to-date records as required by relevant legislation and the organisation

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Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

- K1 your responsibilities under relevant animal health and welfare and other animal-related legislation and codes of practice
- K2 your responsibilities under relevant environmental and health and safety legislation, codes of practice and company policies
- K3 the importance of maintaining appropriate levels of hygiene and bio-security and how this can be achieved
- K4 animal's needs for exercise and the reasons for this
- K5 how the need for exercise differs between different animals and the context in which the animal is kept
- K6 the reasons for providing different species of animals with different exercise opportunities
- K7 how animals' need for exercise differs at different stages of growth and how lack of exercise may lead to problems in later stages of life
- K8 why insufficient exercise is harmful to animals
- K9 the optimum time for exercising animals
- K10 factors affecting the safety of the exercise area for the animal(s) to be exercised, and others including other users
- K11 the importance of maintaining complete and accurate records as required by relevant legislation and the organisation

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Glossary

Current animal welfare legislation:

- England and Wales, Animal Welfare Act 2006
- Scotland, Animal Health and Welfare Act 2006
- Northern Ireland, Welfare of Animals Act (Northern Ireland) 2011

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