



National Unit specification: general information

Unit title: Horse Care: Equitation 1 (SCQF level 4)

Unit code: FV9V 10

Superclass: SH

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Summary

The purpose of this Unit is to introduce the candidate to riding a well-schooled horse in walk and trot in an enclosed area under direction and in the company of other horses and riders. By the end of the Unit candidates will check their own equipment on the horse and ride safely in company by communicating with other riders during the riding activity. This is a practical Unit.

Outcomes

- 1 Prepare to ride a well-schooled horse.
- 2 Demonstrate correct position at halt, walk and trot.
- 3 Perform basic school movements at walk and trot under direction.
- 4 Describe and adhere to the rules of the school.

Recommended entry

While entry is at the discretion of the centre, it would be beneficial if candidates had experience of handling horses.

Credit points and level

1 National Unit credit at SCQF level 4 (6 SCQF credit points at SCQF level 4*)

**SCQF credit points are used to allocate credit to qualifications in the Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF). Each qualification in the Framework is allocated a number of SCQF credit points at an SCQF level. There are 12 SCQF levels, ranging from Access 1 to Doctorates.*

National Unit specification: general information (cont)

Unit title: Horse Care: Equitation 1 (SCQF level 4)

Core Skills

Opportunities to develop aspects of Core Skills are highlighted in the support notes of this Unit specification.

There is no automatic certification of Core Skills or Core Skill component in this Unit.

National Unit specification: statement of standards

Unit title: Horse Care: Equitation 1 (SCQF level 4)

Acceptable performance in this Unit will be the satisfactory achievement of the standards set out in this part of the Unit specification. All sections of the statement of standards are mandatory and cannot be altered without reference to SQA.

Outcome 1

Prepare to ride a well schooled horse.

Performance Criteria

- (a) Identify and select appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE).
- (b) Lead horse to prescribed area safely.
- (c) Demonstrate and describe where and how tack is checked for safety prior to mounting.
- (d) Demonstrate mounting from either the ground or a mounting block.
- (e) Adjust stirrups, check and adjust girth while mounted.
- (f) Dismount and make the necessary adjustments to tack in preparation for leading the horse back to the stable safely.
- (g) Lead the horse back to the stable safely.

Outcome 2

Demonstrate correct position at halt, walk and trot.

Performance Criteria

- (a) Demonstrate the correct position at halt and walk.
- (b) Demonstrate the correct position while trotting.

Outcome 3

Perform basic school movements at walk and trot under direction.

Performance Criteria

- (a) Ride basic school movements, under direction.
- (b) Demonstrate riding on the correct diagonals.

Outcome 4

Describe and adhere to the Rules of the School.

Performance Criteria

- (a) Describe the Rules of the School.
- (b) Apply the Rules of the School when riding in company in an enclosed area.
- (c) Describe the consequences of not abiding by the Rules of the School.

National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)

Unit title: Horse Care: Equitation 1 (SCQF level 4)

Evidence Requirements

Evidence is required to demonstrate that the candidates have achieved all of the Outcomes and Performance Criteria.

Candidates will be assessed on a single occasion. Outcomes 1–3 can be integrated and performance evidence must be gathered.

Compliance with health and safety legislation and the Rules of the Riding School is required at all times during all activities.

Outcome 1

Written/oral and performance evidence is required to demonstrate that the candidate can prepare to ride a well schooled horse, adhering to the rules of the school at all times.

Evidence must include:

- ◆ Identification and selection of appropriate personal protective equipment which includes:
 - a hat of the current BSI standard for riding
 - suitable footwear, gloves and clothing.
- ◆ Leading a well schooled horse to a prescribed mounting area safely.
- ◆ A description of where and how tack is checked for safety prior to mounting.
- ◆ A check of tack for safety prior to mounting.
- ◆ Mounting and dismounting a horse safely from the ground or mounting block.
- ◆ Making adjustments to girth and stirrups if necessary while mounted.
- ◆ Maintaining control of the horse at all time.
- ◆ Dismounting the horse safely while maintaining control of the horse which includes:
 - taking the reins over its head and running up stirrup irons prior to leading the horse back to the stable.

Outcome 2

Performance evidence is required to show that the candidate can demonstrate the correct position at walk and trot under direction and while riding with others and adhering to the rules of the school, which includes:

- ◆ Maintaining a secure and balanced position, independent of the reins, when riding a well-schooled horse in walk and trot, under direction and while riding with others.
- ◆ Using an appropriate stirrup length for the work undertaken, under direction and while riding with others.
- ◆ Maintaining appropriate rein contact for the work undertaken, under direction and while riding with others.
- ◆ Using natural aids for riding the horse forward under direction and while riding with others including legs, seat and hands.

Outcome 3

Performance evidence is required to show that the candidate can perform basic school movements at walk and trot, under direction, which includes:

- ◆ Circles of no less than 20 metres.
- ◆ Simple changes of rein, across the long diagonal and either up or across the centre line.
- ◆ Using natural aids for riding circles, turns and straight lines as well as riding upward and downward transitions through halt, walk and trot.
- ◆ Using the correct diagonal for rising trot.

National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)

Unit title: Horse Care: Equitation 1 (SCQF level 4)

Outcome 4

Written/oral evidence is required to show that the candidate can describe and adhere to the rules of the school, which includes:

- ◆ A description of the Rules of the School.
- ◆ A description of the importance of following the rules of the school at all times.
- ◆ An explanation of the safety implications of failing to follow the Rules of the School.

National Unit specification: support notes

Unit title: Horse Care: Equitation 1 (SCQF level 4)

This part of the Unit specification is offered as guidance. The support notes are not mandatory.

While the exact time allocated to this Unit is at the discretion of the centre, the notional design length is 40 hours.

Guidance on the content and context for this Unit

On completion of this Unit candidates should have the skills and knowledge to be able to ride a well-schooled horse correctly and safely, in walk and trot, in an enclosed arena under direction in the company of other horses and riders. This Unit is an optional Unit within the National Certificate in Horse Care at SCQF level 5. Candidates are not required to have any previous riding knowledge or experience however it would be beneficial to have experience of handling horses. This Unit will prepare candidates for progression to *Horse Care: Equitation 2*.

This Unit aligns to the following National Occupational Standards (NOS) from Lantra:

- ◆ LAN Eq 10: Mount and Dismount Suitable Horses Under Supervision
- ◆ LAN Eq 110 Ride Horses in an Enclosed Area Under Supervision

Guidance on learning and teaching approaches for this Unit

For all Outcomes candidates would benefit from:

- ◆ Working in a classroom to learn the layout of a small arena (40m x 20m) and how to ride the basic school movements and terminology.
- ◆ Working in small groups when riding.
- ◆ Practical demonstrations.
- ◆ Watching DVDs to see how basic school movements are ridden.
- ◆ Safety regulations and safe working practices and procedures should be observed at all times.

Guidance on approaches to assessment for this Unit

Outcomes 1–3

This evidence could be gathered with the aid of an observation checklist.

Outcome 4

This evidence could be gathered by using a written or oral exercise under closed-book conditions.

National Unit specification: support notes (cont)

Unit title: Horse Care: Equitation 1 (SCQF level 4)

Opportunities for the use of e-assessment

E-assessment may be appropriate for some assessments in this Unit. By e-assessment we mean assessment which is supported by Information and Communication Technology (ICT), such as e-testing or the use of e-portfolios or e-checklists. Centres which wish to use e-assessment must ensure that the national standard is applied to all candidate evidence and that conditions of assessment as specified in the Evidence Requirements are met, regardless of the mode of gathering evidence. Further advice is available in *SQA Guidelines on Online Assessment for Further Education (AA1641, March 2003)*, *SQA Guidelines on e-assessment for Schools (BD2625, June 2005)*.

Opportunities for developing Core Skills

In this Unit the candidate will be introduced to riding a well-schooled horse in walk and trot in an enclosed area under direction and in the company of other horses and riders. Candidates will check their own equipment on the horse and ride safely in company by communicating with other riders during the riding activity. This is a practical Unit.

Candidates will

- ◆ be working and assessed in groups
- ◆ be required to communicate with the commander of the riding
- ◆ take responsibility for the safety of their horse and others in the riding group.

As they are doing this Unit candidates will be developing aspects of the Core Skills in *Working with Others* and *Communication*.

Disabled candidates and/or those with additional support needs

The additional support needs of individual candidates should be taken into account when planning learning experiences, selecting assessment instruments, or considering whether any reasonable adjustments may be required. Further advice can be found on our website www.sqa.org.uk/assessmentarrangements

History of changes to Unit

Version	Description of change	Date

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