

LANNAC14 - SQA Unit Code F8JR 04

Provide information to individuals and groups on how to promote the health of animals and interpret their behaviour



Overview

This standard describes the competences required by those whose role is to provide animals and interpret their behaviour. The standard is not intended for those who specialise in animal behaviour or in animal health, but is for those who carry out such interpretation in a support capacity.

The elements are:

1. Provide information to individuals and groups on how to promote the health and well-being of animals
2. Provide information to individuals and groups on the reasons for, and meaning of, animal behaviour

Element 1 involves the provision of information on health promotion and well being of animals and demonstrating good practice in your own dealings with animals. You will be able to prepare and provide accurate and complete information and present it in a manner that is suited to your audience.

Element 2 covers the provision of information on animal behaviour and advice on why animals may not be behaving as they should. You will be able to identify options for action which are best for the individual animal and the person

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Performance criteria

You must be able to:

Provide information to individuals and groups on how to promote the health and well-being of animals

- P1 prepare and provide information on **promoting the health and well-being of animals** which is accurate and complete
- P2 give information which is consistent with organisation's policy on health promotion
- P3 demonstrate good practice in **promoting the health and well-being of animals** in your own dealings with animals
- P4 make relevant appropriate health promotion materials available to individuals
- P5 provide information on alternative sources of information where individuals might benefit from it
- P6 provide health promotion and **risk reduction** advice in a manner, and at a level and pace, which is appropriate to the individual(s) you are advising
- P7 offer individuals the opportunity to discuss and seek clarification on any health matters

You must be able to:

Provide information to individuals and groups on the reasons for, and meaning of, animal behaviour

- P8 explain the **animal behaviour** which is to be expected of animals of different species
- P9 explain the ways in which human behaviour may trigger specific kinds of normal **animal behaviour** and illustrate this with relevant examples
- P10 obtain **relevant information** on individual **animal behaviour** to determine whether it is behaving abnormally and the nature of its behaviour
- P11 evaluate the range of situations and **influences** which may be affecting the animal, and identify those which are most likely to be affecting the animal
- P12 encourage the individual to think through the impact of their own behaviour on the animal and to modify it to improve the **animal's behaviour**
- P13 explore the possible **options for action** and identify the best for the individual animal and person
- P14 monitor the result of changing animal and individual behaviour and give follow-up advice where necessary

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Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

Provide information to individuals and groups on how to promote the health and well-being of animals

- K1 the different ways in which animal health and well-being can be promoted
- K2 the general care requirements for specific animals i.e. nutrition, accommodation, exercise
- K3 the main sources of information e.g. organisations, references, legislation
- K4 the limitations of your own knowledge and competence and hence the amount of information which you can provide
- K5 the potential problems which may arise if the wrong information is given
- K6 good practice in promoting animal health and well-being and how your own behaviour can provide a mirror for others
- K7 how to recognise abnormal behaviour in animals
- K8 the difference between health promotion and risk reduction strategies in maintaining animal health and well-being and why both are needed
- K9 the information which is confidential and why
- K10 your own responsibility under health and safety and animal welfare legislation

You need to know and understand:

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- K11 normal and abnormal behaviour in animals
- K12 the effective ways of handling and managing animals which contributes to their health and well-being
- K13 the effects of human behaviour on animals and how animals can learn responses from humans
- K14 the main sources of information e.g. organisations, references, legislation
- K15 the limitations of your own knowledge and competence and hence the amount of information which can be provided
- K16 the potential problems which may arise if the wrong information is given
- K17 the situations and influences on animals and how this may affect their behaviour
- K18 how to assess what may be affecting animal behaviour
- K19 how to encourage individuals to think through how their own behaviour may be affecting animals and how they may alter it constructively
- K20 the possible options for action which there are in changing animal behaviour

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K21 your own responsibilities under health and safety and animal welfare legislation

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Additional Information

Scope/range related to performance criteria

Provide information to individuals and groups on how to promote the health and well-being of animals

1. **promoting the health and well-being of animals:**
 - 1.1. diet
 - 1.2. accommodation
 - 1.3. exercise
 - 1.4. handling
 - 1.5. physical condition
 - 1.6. specific measures to promote health (e.g. preventative measures, identification etc.)
 - 1.7. maintaining the body and appearance of the animal
2. advise individuals on the following types of **risk reduction**:
 - 2.1. encouraging the individual to change the way they currently care for the animal (e.g. by increasing the amount of exercise, reducing the amount of feed)
 - 2.2. medications for particular conditions
 - 2.3. relating to the health and safety of the animal and their owners

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3. **animal behaviour:**
 - 3.1. behaviour which is normal to the species
 - 3.2. behaviour which is normal to the animal concerned
 - 3.3. unexpected/abnormal behaviour to the animal or species
4. explain the ways in which human behaviour may trigger specific kinds of **animal behaviour**:
 - 4.1. the ways in which animals are conditioned to respond
 - 4.2. the ways in which animals react to particular incidents
 - 4.3. the influence of animals' previous experience of humans in particular situations
5. **relevant information:**
 - 5.1. personal observation
 - 5.2. reports of owners
 - 5.3. reports from others

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6. **influences:**

- 6.1. the behaviour of people
- 6.2. the behaviour of other animals
- 6.3. the environment

7. **options for action:**

- 7.1. individuals changing their behaviour
- 7.2. changing animals' environment
- 7.3. altering the other animals who are present

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