

LANAnC4 - SQA Unit Code HA7X 04

Handle animals under supervision and instruction



Overview

This standard covers handling animals under supervision and instruction. It includes the skills required to handle a variety of different animals safely and effectively.

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 who handles animals under supervision and instruction.

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Performance criteria

You must be able to:

- P1 carry out all work under supervision and instruction
- P2 comply with relevant animal health and welfare, other animal-related legislation and associated codes of practice at all times
- P3 maintain the health and safety of yourself and others throughout
- P4 use safe practices and appropriate personal protective equipment
- P5 maintain hygiene and bio-security in accordance with instructions
- P6 approach animals in a calm and confident manner
- P7 use handling methods in accordance with instructions
- P8 handle animals in a manner likely to promote their co-operation and minimise the possibility of distress
- P9 handle animals in a manner that maintains their welfare and safety
- P10 monitor the animal's behaviour and its response to handling and report any problems to the appropriate person without delay
- P11 interact with the animal in a humane manner that minimises stress
- P12 promote the animal's welfare at all times and adapt your own, or others, behaviour if necessary, to avoid creating behaviour giving rise to welfare concern
- P13 identify behaviours that may indicate welfare or other problems and report these to the appropriate person
- P14 recognise when behaviour may indicate that you should not continue with the activity

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Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

- K1 the importance of completing an activity in accordance with instructions from the supervisor
- K2 your responsibilities under relevant animal health and welfare and other animal-related legislation and codes of practice
- K3 your responsibilities under relevant environmental and health and safety legislation, codes of practice and organisation policies
- K4 the importance and correct use of appropriate personal protective equipment
- K5 the importance of maintaining hygiene and bio-security when handling animals and how this is achieved
- K6 how and where to obtain information about the temperament and usual behaviour patterns of the animals you will be handling
- K7 safe and effective methods of handling the animals concerned
- K8 the welfare requirements of animals and how to maintain their health and well-being
- K9 the different factors that can affect an animal's behaviour and what to do if these are observed
- K10 why it is important to monitor an animal's response to handling and how to recognise signs of negative responses
- K11 to whom you should report any changes in an animal's behaviour or any negative responses to handling, and the potential consequences of not reporting this
- K12 how to recognise behavioural and emotional states in animals including: fear, aggression, appeasement, anxiety, play and relaxation
- K13 how your actions, or the actions of others may affect the behaviour and welfare of the animal
- K14 the importance of recognising behaviour which indicates it would not be appropriate to continue with the activity

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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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Developed by Lantra

Version number 1

Date Approved January 2014

Indicative review date January 2019

Validity Current

Status Original

Originating organisation Lantra

Original URN O29NAC1.2

Relevant occupations Animal Care

Suite Animal Care and Welfare

Keywords animal; handle