



National Unit specification: general information

Unit title: Horse Care: Equitation 3 (SCQF level 6)

Unit code: FV9X 12

Superclass: SH

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Summary

The purpose of this Unit is to develop and improve the candidate's position, balance and ability to ride a well-mannered and schooled horse correctly in walk, trot and canter (with and without stirrups). The candidate will be introduced to the adjustments necessary in order to work over fences and to ride outside over undulating ground. The candidate will continue to ride in the company of other horses and riders and also continue to ride for some of the time without direction but still under supervision.

Safety regulations and safe working practices and procedures should be observed at all times. This Unit is designed to build on the skills gained in *Equitation 1 and 2* and will introduce the candidates to jumping and riding over different terrains.

Outcomes

- 1 Demonstrate the correct position with and without stirrups at walk, trot and canter, and when carrying out school movements.
- 2 Ride outside in company over undulating ground demonstrating security, balance and control.
- 3 Jump a grid and small fences demonstrating correct position, security and balance.
- 4 Prepare to ride on the road and in the countryside safely.

Recommended entry

While entry is at the discretion of the centre, candidates would normally be expected to have attained one of the following, or equivalent:

- ◆ *Horse Care: Equitation 2*
- ◆ Recognised industrial equivalent.

National Unit specification: general information (cont)

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Credit points and level

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

**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.*

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 components in this Unit.

National Unit specification: statement of standards

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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

Demonstrate the correct position with and without stirrups at walk, trot and canter and when carrying out school movements.

Performance Criteria

- (a) Carry out safety checks prior to mounting.
- (b) Demonstrate a correct position and balance, from halt, at walk, trot and canter, with and without stirrups.
- (c) Carry out school movements while maintaining correct position, security and balance.
- (d) Describe the use of the natural and artificial aids when riding horses.

Outcome 2

Ride outside in company over undulating ground demonstrating security, balance and control.

Performance Criteria

- (a) Adjust stirrup length for riding over varying terrain.
- (b) Ride outside, under supervision, in an enclosed field in company demonstrating security, balance and control.

Outcome 3

Jump a grid and small fences demonstrating correct position, security and balance.

Performance Criteria

- (a) Demonstrate the correct position required for jumping carrying the correct length of whip.
- (b) Ride over a small grid maintaining a secure and correct position with balance.
- (c) Ride over a course of single fences while maintaining a correct and secure position with balance.

Outcome 4

Prepare to ride on the road and in the countryside safely.

Performance Criteria

- (a) Select suitable equipment and clothing for riding safely on the road.
- (b) Prepare horse and self for riding on the road.
- (c) Ride a simulated road test to include junctions, crossroads, traffic lights and likely hazards which maybe encountered on the road.
- (d) Describe the Highway and Country Code as it applies to horses and riders.

National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)

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Evidence Requirements for this Unit

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

This Unit must be assessed on a single occasion and a combination of performance oral written and recorded evidence must be gathered. Practical Assessments for Outcomes 1–3 can be integrated.

Outcome 1

Performance evidence and written/oral/recorded evidence — closed-book.

Candidates must provide performance evidence to demonstrate that they can:

- ◆ Check tack for fit and safety prior to mounting.
- ◆ Use the correct mounting procedure, from either the ground or from a mounting block and be able to adjust stirrups and girth appropriately once mounted and while maintaining control over the horse.
- ◆ Ride at walk, trot and canter while carrying an appropriate length of whip.
- ◆ Describe the uses of three natural and two artificial aids used when riding horses.
- ◆ Describe how to ride on the correct canter leg.
- ◆ Demonstrate correct position, balance and effective use of the aids while riding:
 - with stirrups at all three gaits
 - without stirrups at all three gaits.
- ◆ Demonstrate ability to ride school movements that would be included in a BD preliminary dressage test.

Outcome 2

Performance evidence must be provided to show that the candidate can:

- ◆ Adjust stirrups, while mounted, to a suitable length for riding in the open, over undulating terrain.
- ◆ Ride the horse, in a group, under supervision, while maintaining control of the horse and maintaining correct position and balance.

Outcome 3

Performance evidence must be provided to show that the candidate can:

- ◆ Ride over a small grid of fences of up to 75cms demonstrating control, balance and independent seat.
- ◆ Jump a small course of six to eight single fences, which must be a minimum height of 60cms and up to 75cms maximum, demonstrating control, balance, and independent seat.
- ◆ Carry a jumping whip no longer than 75cms, on each occasion.

At least two of the fences must be up to the full height and two others must be spread fences.

National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)

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Outcome 4

Performance evidence and written/oral/recorded closed-book evidence must be provided to show that the candidate can, on one single occasion:

- ◆ Select suitable equipment and clothing for riding safely on the road. A minimum of two items must be high visibility items.
- ◆ Prepare the horse and self for the road.
- ◆ Check the horses tack for fit and safety.
- ◆ Check the condition of the horses' feet for safety to ride on the road.
- ◆ Ride a simulated road test which includes:
 - Junction
 - Crossroads
 - Traffic lights, and hazards which must include pedestrians and parked vehicle
 - A roadside object such as traffic cones, rubbish bin or other object liable to cause horse to react
- ◆ Describe the Highway Code and Country Code as it applies to horses and riders.

National Unit specification: support notes

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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

This Unit is an optional Unit within the National Certificate in Horse Care at SCQF level 5. In this Unit candidates are required to demonstrate a correct position and improved balance while riding a well-mannered and schooled horse in walk, trot and canter. They will continue to ride in an enclosed area but will not always be under direction. They will be introduced to riding outside and to jumping a grid and single fences. They will also be required to prepare to ride safely on the roads and to show an understanding of the Country Code and Highway Code as it applies to horses.

In order to do this Unit Candidates should have successfully completed *Equitation 2* or have passed BHS Stage 1 or an industrial equivalent determined by the centre.

This Unit will prepare candidates for progression to Higher National Certificate Equitation Units.

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

- ◆ LAN Eq217 Ride Schooled Horses
- ◆ LAN Eq215 Ride Horses in the open
- ◆ LAN Eq218 Jump Schooled Horses
- ◆ LAN Eq214 Ride Horses on the Road

Guidance on learning and teaching approaches for this Unit

For all Outcomes candidates would benefit from:

- ◆ Group instruction in an enclosed arena on well mannered horses.
- ◆ Practical demonstrations on correct position for riding over fences.
- ◆ Watching either video or DVD showing the importance of balance and different position adopted for working over fences.
- ◆ Tutor led classroom discussions on distances used for grid work.
- ◆ Riding outside over undulating terrain under supervision.
- ◆ Self directed riding in groups.

Guidance on approaches to assessment for this Unit

The following approaches to assessment are suggested:

- Outcome 1: Practical and written/oral Assessment
- Outcome 2: Practical Assessment
- Outcome 3: Practical Assessment
- Outcome 4: Written/Oral assessment, closed-book

National Unit specification: support notes (cont)

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Practical Assessments for Outcomes 1–3 can be integrated and could be assessed using an observation checklist with additional questioning for Outcome 1. This Unit should be assessed on a single occasion.

Time should be allowed for any necessary re-assessment.

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 candidates will develop and improve their position, balance and ability to ride a well-mannered and schooled horse correctly in walk, trot and canter (with and without stirrups). The candidate will be introduced to the adjustments necessary in order to work over fences and to ride outside over undulating ground. The candidate will continue to ride in the company of other horses and riders and continue to ride for some of the time without direction but still under supervision

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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