Skills England

Draft Preview

DRAFT APPRENTICESHIP ASSESSMENT PLAN FOR THE VETERINARY CARE ASSISTANT APPRENTICESHIP

ST1446/V2

APPRENTICESHIP REFERENCE NUMBER	LEVEL OF THIS APPRENTICESHIP	INTEGRATION
ST1446	2	None

Assessment Plan

Assessment details

Introduction

This apprenticeship assessment plan (AAP) sets out the requirements for the assessment of the level 2 veterinary care assistant apprenticeship. It should be read in conjunction with the Requirements for Apprenticeship Assessment. Where there is conflict between this AAP and the Requirements for Apprenticeship Assessment, this AAP takes precedence. Assessment organisations must also comply with the relevant regulatory framework for apprenticeship assessment.

It is important that the assessment of apprentices is proportionate, valid, and provides reliable evidence of an apprentice's attainment of the relevant knowledge and skills. As such, assessment organisations must design assessments to ensure:

- employers have confidence that the apprentice has reached the expected performance standard
- apprentices are sufficiently secure in their knowledge and skills, so that they could demonstrate their competence in different contexts, for example, a different workplace

Assessment Outcomes

The assessment outcomes group and summarise the knowledge and skills that must be demonstrated in assessments.

Table 1: Assessment outcomes

Table 1 sets out the assessment outcomes and the mapped knowledge and skill statements. All assessment outcomes must be assessed. Knowledge and skills statements listed in the mandatory statements column must be assessed in every version of the assessment that is made available.

Knowledge and skills statements that offer opportunities to develop functional English and maths are identified with an asterisk.

Assessment Outcome	Mapped statements	Mandatory statements
AO1: Animal care, husbandry and welfare Applies knowledge of animal care when carrying out species-specific husbandry and routine care activities. Monitors, records and reports animal health and behaviour.	K2*, K3*, K4, K5*, K6, K10 S2*, S3*, S7	K2, K3, K4, K5 S2, S3, S7
AO2: Patient and clinical care support Assists with patient care activities and supports patients through their care within the veterinary practice. Supports care procedures that underpin the patient journey.	K7*, K8*, K9*, K12*, K13, K20 S4*, S5*, S6	K7, K12, K20 S6
AO3: Veterinary environment, biosecurity and equipment support Maintains the clinical environment through biosecurity and infection prevention and control activities. Prepares and maintains equipment, consumables and dispensary resources used in veterinary care.	K1, K19*, K21, K22 S1, S15*, S16*	K1, K21 S1, S16
AO4: Health, safety, welfare and professional practice Applies workplace policies and procedures relating to animal welfare, health and safety, environmental responsibility, sustainability and record keeping.	K11*, K14*, K15, K16* S8*, S9, S10, S11*	K14, K16 S9, S11
AO5: Communication and teamwork Communicates with colleagues, animal guardians and clients. Shares information with the veterinary team and works with others involved in animal care.	K17*, K18* S12*, S13*, S14*	K17, K18 S13

Assessment requirements

Assessment organisations must set apprenticeship assessments. Assessment organisations should consider how technology and digital tools can support innovation and efficiency.

Assessment organisations must design apprenticeship assessments to include at least one **observation**.

Any additional assessment, or assessments, must be selected from the following list of methods, to ensure the assessment outcomes are met in full. Methods may be used more than once:

- **additional observation**
- **simulation**
- **interview**
- **question and answer**
- **written assessment**
- **portfolio**
- **journal**

Apprentices may be assessed at any appropriate point during their apprenticeship programme.

Assessments may be designed to allow a centre or training provider to mark assessments. The assessment organisation is responsible for ensuring all assessments are sufficiently reliable and valid, and for the accuracy of any centre or training provider marking.

Performance descriptors

Performance descriptors describe the level of performance required to achieve a pass or distinction grade.

Table 2: performance descriptors

Table 2 sets out the performance descriptor categories and descriptors for pass and distinction. Assessment organisations must design assessments that align with these descriptions.

Performance Category	Pass	Distinction
Applied Knowledge	Applies knowledge, facts, procedures and ideas of veterinary care, appropriately in a significant range of varied work activities and contexts, some of which are complex or non-routine.	Applies knowledge, facts, procedures and ideas of veterinary care, with consistently high accuracy, insights or efficiency in a significant range of varied work activities and contexts, some of which are complex or non-routine.
Applied Skills	Selects and applies practical veterinary care skills consistently in a significant range of varied work activities and contexts, some of which are complex or non-routine. Solves straight-forward, well-defined underkeeping problems, to an acceptable standard.	Integrates practical veterinary care skills with precision in a significant range of varied work activities and contexts, some of which are complex or non-routine. Solves straight-forward, well-defined underkeeping problems, that add value.
Regulatory and Procedural Awareness	Gathers and interprets legislation, standard operating procedures and workplace polices relevant to the role, with minimal noncritical errors, although depth of insight or adaptability may be limited.	Applies interpretation of legislation, standard operating procedures and workplace polices relevant to the role, with minimal noncritical errors and with reasonable depth of insight or adaptability.
Communication and Collaboration	Communicates and collaborates effectively within a team or group setting, delivering reliable service delivery.	Communicates with clarity and sensitivity, within a team or group setting, delivering a courteous service delivery.

Information Use and Decision Making	Gathers and interprets veterinary care information relevant to the role, informing decisions and actions that are fit for purpose in the work context.	Applies interpretation of veterinary care information and feedback relevant to the role, shaping actions that add value.
Responsibility and Autonomy	Takes responsibility for completing veterinary care tasks and procedures. Exercises autonomy and judgement subject to overall direction or guidance. May collaborate with others perhaps through a work group or team.	Exercises informed judgement and self-direction when taking responsibility for completing veterinary care tasks and procedures, anticipating the needs of the task or team.

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