



Writtle  
University  
College

# HORTICULTURE: GARDENING & LANDSCAPING COURSE GUIDE 2021/22





**DID YOU KNOW STUDENTS WON A GOLD MEDAL AND BEST IN SHOW FOR THEIR ENTRY IN THE YOUNG GARDENERS OF THE YEAR COMPETITION AT THE IDEAL HOME SHOW IN MARCH 2017**

# WANT TO BE PART OF IT?

Horticulture is the growing of flowers, study of plants, design of gardens and construction of landscapes. The industry, art and science of Horticulture is fundamental to our health, quality of life and enriching our environment. It's an extraordinary world.



By choosing a Horticulture course at WUC you will learn about garden design and history, landscape construction, plant and soil science, plant production and identification, and estate management.

You will gain in-depth knowledge and hands-on experience of planting, growing and caring for plants, shrubs and trees - including fruits and vegetables - in our temperature-controlled glasshouse, gardens and large collection of plants across campus.

All of our courses combine theory with practical work and include work placements to enhance your learning. You will be highly employable, but will also finish your studies with the skills and confidence to set up your own business if you wish.

We hope this guide gives you all the information you need, but please do not hesitate to contact our admissions team if you have any questions about applying to study here, want an update on the status of your application, or have a query about what you need to do next.

T: 01245 424200  
E [admissions@writtle.ac.uk](mailto:admissions@writtle.ac.uk)

[www.writtle.ac.uk/FE-Horticulture:-Gardening-and-Landscaping](http://www.writtle.ac.uk/FE-Horticulture:-Gardening-and-Landscaping)

# LEVEL 3 ADVANCED TECHNICAL DIPLOMA IN HORTICULTURE

**DURATION:  
STUDY MODE - FULL TIME  
COURSE LENGTH - 1 YEAR**



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## ABOUT THE COURSE

This Advanced Technical Diploma in Horticulture provides you with the depth and breadth of horticultural knowledge.

The course provides 10 units over a year that include a work placement with in the industry itself helping the learner to apply the knowledge gleamed from their studies and working to an industry standard.

This range of units will provide you with the knowledge to operate with in a garden or estate on a wide range of job roles from grounds maintenance, machinery operator, compliant with health and safety, management of maintenance activities with planning and scheduling along with plant health monitoring. The course will provide you with the skills to survey a site and make recommendations to improve, manage or transform gardens along with plant selection, site analysis with soil assessments and this can be used to develop garden design proposals and planting schemes.

## ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

- 5 GCSEs at Grade 9-4 or A\*-C
- Must include English and Maths
- A work placement of 5 days in a related industry is desirable
- Satisfactory references from School

## AREAS OF STUDY

The qualification consists of the following 10 units:

- Principles of health and safety
- Maintain turf in parks and gardens
- Plant selection and identification
- Land based machinery operations
- Plant health and protection
- Plant and soil science
- Undertake and review work related experience in the land based industries
- Establish and manage exterior displays
- Site surveying, levelling and setting out
- Principles and practice of garden design



**What can I do after  
this course?**

**Students could further  
their education in  
horticulture by  
studying an Advanced  
Apprenticeship in  
Horticulture or  
progress into  
employment as  
a Grounds maintenance  
manager, Machinery  
operator or Park and  
gardens planning and  
scheduling officer**

[www.writtle.ac.uk/FE-Horticulture:-Gardening-and-Landscaping](http://www.writtle.ac.uk/FE-Horticulture:-Gardening-and-Landscaping)



**DURATION:**  
**STUDY-MODE - FULL TIME**  
**COURSE LENGTH - ONE YEAR**

# LEVEL 2 TECHNICAL CERTIFICATE IN HORTICULTURE



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## ABOUT THE COURSE

The City and Guilds Level 2 Technical Certificate in Horticulture qualification provides a great starting point for a career in horticulture. The horticulture sector is made up of many diverse industries delivering the science, technology, business and art of "growing plants".

Careers within horticulture are varied and include crop production (fruit, vegetables, flowers, trees, shrubs and glasshouse crops such as tomatoes), garden and landscape design, garden and landscape construction (hard and soft landscaping) and maintenance, sports turf maintenance and management, and provide a variety of levels, from machine operatives and gardeners through to plant and soil scientists.

The grounds and facilities here at WUC provide an excellent learning environment, which is complemented by our experienced and enthusiastic staff

## ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

- 4 GCSEs at Grade 9-3 or A\*-D
- Must include English and Maths at no less than Grade 3 or Grade D
- A work placement of 5 days in a related industry is desirable
- Satisfactory references from School
- Please note: Alternative qualifications or experience will be considered on application.

## AREAS OF STUDY

- Health and safety for the landbased industries
- Working in the horticulture industry
- Plant naming, identification, selection and science
- Preparation, planting and maintenance of plants
- Care, maintenance and use of tools, equipment and machinery
- Horticulture business practices
- Commercial gardening and landscaping

**City & Guilds**

Chartered Institute of  
**Horticulture**

**What can I do after  
this course?**

**Students could further  
their education in  
horticulture by  
studying the Level 3  
Advanced Technical  
Diploma in  
Horticulture or an  
Apprenticeship in  
Horticulture. You  
might progress into  
employment as an  
Assistant gardener,  
Greenkeeper or  
Groundsman**

[www.writtle.ac.uk/FE-  
Horticulture:-Gardening-and-  
Landscaping](http://www.writtle.ac.uk/FE-Horticulture:-Gardening-and-Landscaping)

# LEVEL 2 CERTIFICATE IN GARDEN DESIGN

## DURATION:

16-19 YEAR OLDS - 2 DAYS PER WEEK AT  
WUC AND 1-2 DAYS WORK PLACEMENT

19+ ADULTS - 1 DAY PER WEEK FOR 1  
ACADEMIC YEAR

## ABOUT THE COURSE

This course will provide our learners the foundational horticultural knowledge that they will need in the development of a garden design. The focus on plant selection and care supported by the sciences of plant growth and soil types. This will direct the learner to the needs of individual plant types, quality of nursery stock, sizes available and legislation linked to the importation and monitoring of nursery stock.

Garden design processes will also further the understanding and application of design principles, sketching, a range of technical drawing skills and graphics with further communication tools such as a mood board and 3D graphics.

## ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

- 4 GCSEs at Grade 9-3 or A\*-D
- Must include English and Maths at no less than Grade 3 or Grade D
- A work placement of 5 days in a related industry is desirable
- Satisfactory references from School
- Please note: Alternative qualifications or experience will be considered on application.

## AREAS OF STUDY

- Plant selection and care
- Plant knowledge
- Plant and soil science
- Garden design process
- Planning for garden design
- Graphics and 3D studies for garden design

Optional module (selected by Writtle tutors):

- Hard landscaping materials and features



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16-19 YEAR OLD STUDENT REQUIRING THEIR GCSE WILL ALSO BE CONTINUING WITH THEIR MATHS AND/OR ENGLISH STUDIES AND MUST ALSO COMPLETE 150 HOURS OF WORK EXPERIENCE IN THE HORTICULTURAL INDUSTRY ALONG WITH WUC ESTATE DUTIES TO PROMOTE AND IMPROVE PRACTICAL HORTICULTURAL SKILLS.

## What can I do after this course?

Level 2 in Garden Design can provide a route for those seeking employment within horticultural organisations, it can also support career development for those already working in the field of horticulture or provide a foundation for further learning or training.

[www.writtle.ac.uk/FE-Horticulture:-Gardening-and-Landscaping](http://www.writtle.ac.uk/FE-Horticulture:-Gardening-and-Landscaping)

# RHS LEVEL 3 CERTIFICATE IN PRACTICAL HORTICULTURE

**DURATION:**  
**STUDY MODE - PART-TIME**  
**COURSE LENGTH:**  
**1 YEAR, 1 DAY A WEEK**  
**START DATE: 10TH SEPTEMBER**  
**DAY/TIME: TUESDAY 9:30AM-3PM**



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## ABOUT THE COURSE

This course builds on the essential horticultural skills covered at level 2. This qualification not only offers opportunities for employment, but enables the learner to begin to specialize in their areas of interest.. Underpinning the whole course is an appreciation of health and safety.

## AREAS OF STUDY

### Mandatory units

Complete all of the following:

- Collecting and testing soil samples and specifying adjustments for horticulture
- Collecting, preparing and propagating from seed
- Establishing and maintaining a range of plant types and forms
- Identification of a range of common garden plants, weeds, pests, diseases and disorders

### Optional units

Choose one of the following:

- Planning, collecting, preparing and establishing propagation material
- Management of green spaces, landscaped areas and ornamental gardens

## ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Ideally you should have achieved RHS Level 2 Certificate in Practical Horticulture or an equivalent qualification. A keen interest in horticulture is crucial, you must also be able to demonstrate suitable levels of numeracy and literacy.

## METHOD OF ASSESSMENT

Each unit studied comprises of a series of learning outcomes. Successful completion of the assessment requires a pass grade for each assessment criteria.

Chartered Institute of  
**Horticulture**



**What can I do after this course?**

Level 3 qualifications can provide a route into the horticultural profession, they can support career development for those already working in the field of horticulture or they can provide a foundation for further learning or training. You may be suitable for employment as an assistant gardener, nursery worker or trainee landscaper.

[www.writtle.ac.uk/FE-Horticulture:-Gardening-and-Landscaping](http://www.writtle.ac.uk/FE-Horticulture:-Gardening-and-Landscaping)

# RHS LEVEL 2 CERTIFICATE IN PRACTICAL HORTICULTURE

**DURATION:**  
**STUDY MODE - PART-TIME**  
**COURSE LENGTH:**  
**1 YEAR, 1 DAY A WEEK**  
**DAY/TIME - MONDAY OR FRIDAY 10AM-3PM**



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## ABOUT THE COURSE

Focusing on developing the essential basic horticultural skills, this qualification will give you the foundation for future development as well as offer opportunities for employment. You will learn how to care and prune plants, understand the reasons behind soil testing and be able to identify a range of common plants, weeds, pests and diseases. Underpinning the whole course is an appreciation of health and safety.

## AREAS OF STUDY

**Mandatory units:**

- Soil testing
- Sowing seeds and vegetative propagation techniques
- Practical skills in ground preparation for seeding and planting
- Practical skills in establishing seeds and plants in soil
- Care and pruning of plants
- Identification of a range of common garden plants, weeds, pests, diseases and disorders and beneficial organisms

**Just some of the optional units available:**

- Sustainable garden practice
- Safe operation of powered garden machinery
- Establishing, repairing and maintaining a lawn

## ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

There are no pre-requisites for entry to the qualification. A keen interest in horticulture is crucial, you must also be able to demonstrate suitable levels of numeracy and literacy.

## METHOD OF ASSESSMENT

Each unit studied comprises of a series of learning outcomes. Successful completion of the assessment requires a pass grade for each assessment criteria.

Chartered Institute of  
**Horticulture**



**What can I do after this course?**

**Level 2 qualifications can provide a route into the horticultural profession, they can support career development for those already working in the field of horticulture or they can provide a foundation for further learning or training. You may be suitable for employment as an assistant gardener, nursery worker or trainee landscaper.**

[www.writtle.ac.uk/FE-Horticulture:-Gardening-and-Landscaping](http://www.writtle.ac.uk/FE-Horticulture:-Gardening-and-Landscaping)



# RHS LEVEL 2 CERTIFICATE IN PRACTICAL HORTICULTURE SKILLS - KING'S COLLEGE CAMBRIDGE

**DURATION:**  
STUDY MODE - PART-TIME  
**COURSE LENGTH:**  
1 YEAR, 1 DAY A WEEK  
**DAY/TIME - WEDNESDAY 10AM-3PM**  
**LOCATION - KING'S COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE**



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## ABOUT THE COURSE

Focusing on developing the essential basic horticultural skills, this qualification will give you the foundation for future development as well as offer opportunities for employment. You will learn how to care and prune plants, understand the reasons behind soil testing and be able to identify a range of common plants, weeds, pests and diseases. Underpinning the whole course is an appreciation of health and safety.

## AREAS OF STUDY

**Mandatory units:**

- Soil testing
- Sowing seeds and vegetative propagation techniques
- Practical skills in ground preparation for seeding and planting
- Practical skills in establishing seeds and plants in soil
- Care and pruning of plants
- Identification of a range of common garden plants, weeds, pests, diseases and disorders and beneficial organisms

**Just some of the optional units available:**

- Sustainable garden practice
- Safe operation of powered garden machinery
- Establishing, repairing and maintaining a lawn

## ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

There are no pre-requisites for entry to the qualification. A keen interest in horticulture is crucial, you must also be able to demonstrate suitable levels of numeracy and literacy.

## METHOD OF ASSESSMENT

Each unit studied comprises of a series of learning outcomes. Successful completion of the assessment requires a pass grade for each assessment criteria.



**What can I do after this course?**

Level 2 qualifications can provide a route into the horticultural profession, they can support career development for those already working in the field of horticulture or they can provide a foundation for further learning or training. You may be suitable for employment as an assistant gardener, nursery worker or trainee landscaper.

[www.writtle.ac.uk/FE-Horticulture:-Gardening-and-Landscaping](http://www.writtle.ac.uk/FE-Horticulture:-Gardening-and-Landscaping)





## RHS LEVEL 2 CERTIFICATE IN THE PRINCIPLES OF GARDEN PLANNING, ESTABLISHMENT AND MAINTENANCE

**DURATION:**  
**STUDY MODE - PART-TIME**  
**COURSE LENGTH:**  
**SIX MONTHS, FEBRUARY-JUNE**  
**DAY/TIME - 1 DAY A WEEK. THURSDAY 9:30-4:30PM**



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## ABOUT THE COURSE

This intensive introductory course will provide you with a solid foundation in all aspects of garden maintenance, principles of design and the production of edibles covering the following; garden features, plant selection and planning, choice, establishment and maintenance of garden plants and lawns, production of outdoor vegetables and fruit, protected environments and their use in plant cultivation.

## AREAS OF STUDY

**Mandatory units:**

- Understanding garden features, plant selection and planning
- Understanding the choice, establishment and maintenance of garden plants and lawns
- Understanding the production of outdoor vegetables and fruit
- Understanding protected environments and their use in plant cultivation

## ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

- GCSE grade A to D for English, Maths and Science plus one other academic subject at grade A-D or a relevant Level 1 qualification and BKSb test result at level 1.
- A keen interest in horticulture is crucial.
- Please note: Alternative qualifications or experience will be considered on application.

## METHOD OF ASSESSMENT

Each unit will be assessed by a separate written examination covering all learning outcomes specified in the unit.

Examinations will be offered twice a year in February and June.

Chartered Institute of  
**Horticulture**



**What can I do after this course?**

Level 2 qualifications can provide a route into the horticultural profession, they can support career development for those already working in the field of horticulture or they can provide a foundation for further learning or training. You may be suitable for employment as an assistant gardener, nursery worker or trainee landscaper.

[www.writtle.ac.uk/FE-Horticulture:-Gardening-and-Landscaping](http://www.writtle.ac.uk/FE-Horticulture:-Gardening-and-Landscaping)

# RHS LEVEL 2 CERTIFICATE IN THE PRINCIPLES OF HORTICULTURE

**DID YOU KNOW THAT WE ARE AN  
APPROVED GRADE 1 RHS CENTRE FOR  
THE DELIVERY OF LEVEL 2 AND 3  
PRACTICAL AND THEORY PROGRAMMES**



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## ABOUT THE COURSE

This intensive introductory course will provide you with a solid foundation in all aspects of horticultural science, principles and technical skills to the standard of the RHS Certificate in Principles of Horticulture qualification.

## AREAS OF STUDY

Plant classification, structure and function, plant nutrition and root environment, plant health, propagation, garden features, plant selection and planning, choice, establishment and maintenance of garden plants and lawns, production of outdoor vegetables and fruit, protected environments and their use in plant cultivation

## ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

- GCSE grade A to D for English, Maths and Science plus one other academic subject at grade A-D or a relevant Level 1 qualification and BKSb test result at level 1.A keen interest in horticulture is crucial.
- Please note: Alternative qualifications or experience will be considered on application.

## METHOD OF ASSESSMENT

Each unit will be assessed by a separate written examination covering all learning outcomes specified in the unit.

Examinations will be offered twice a year in February and June.

Chartered Institute of  
**Horticulture**



**What can I do after this course?**

**After completion of this course you could progress to a higher level qualification, such as the RHS Level 3 Certificate in the Principles of Plant Growth, Health and Applied Propagation or RHS Level 3 Certificate in the Principles of Garden Planning, Construction and Planting.**

[www.writtle.ac.uk/FE-Horticulture:-Gardening-and-Landscaping](http://www.writtle.ac.uk/FE-Horticulture:-Gardening-and-Landscaping)



# RHS LEVEL 2 CERTIFICATE IN THE PRINCIPLES OF PLANT GROWTH, DEVELOPMENT AND PROPAGATION

**DURATION:**  
**STUDY MODE - PART-TIME**  
**COURSE LENGTH:**  
**SIX MONTHS, SEPTEMBER - FEBRUARY**  
**DAY/TIME - 1 DAY A WEEK. THURSDAY 9:30-4:30PM**



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## ABOUT THE COURSE

This qualification provides a route to employment in professional horticulture by assessing knowledge of the scientific principles underpinning horticultural practices, and supports career development for those already working in the profession. It also provides a foundation for further learning or training in the field of horticulture. This course covers the science that underlies effective horticultural growing practices and successful propagation.

## AREAS OF STUDY

Mandatory units:

- Plant classification, structure, and function
- Plant nutrition and the root environment
- Maintaining plant health
- Understanding plant propagation

## ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

- GCSE grade A to D for English, Maths and Science plus one other academic subject at grade A-D or a relevant Level 1 qualification and BKSb test result at level 1.A keen interest in horticulture is crucial.
- Please note: Alternative qualifications or experience will be considered on application.

## METHOD OF ASSESSMENT

Each unit will be assessed by a separate written examination covering all learning outcomes specified in the unit.

Examinations will be offered twice a year in February and June.

Chartered Institute of  
**Horticulture**



What can I do after this course?

Level 2 qualifications can provide a route into the horticultural profession, they can support career development for those already working in the field of horticulture or they can provide a foundation for further learning or training. You may be suitable for employment in the field of plant growing (for example, nursery growing) or propagation. This is also an excellent choice for the keen amateur gardener who would like to learn more about plant health and propagation, or develop their ability to manage weeds, pests and diseases.

[www.writtle.ac.uk/FE-Horticulture:-Gardening-and-Landscaping](http://www.writtle.ac.uk/FE-Horticulture:-Gardening-and-Landscaping)



**HAVE A QUESTION ABOUT THIS APPRENTICESHIP?  
APPRENTICESHIPS@WRITTLE.AC.UK  
01245 424275**

## LEVEL 2 GOLF GREENKEEPER APPRENTICESHIP



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## ABOUT THE COURSE

Writtle University College are excited to be rolling out the new Golf Greenkeeper Apprenticeship Standard, which has been specifically designed by employers to meet the needs of industry and provide you with the skills and knowledge to succeed in your industry. A Golf Greenkeeper is responsible for the maintenance, care and overall appearance of a golf course in line with employer's requirements. It is their job to maintain a good quality playing surface and ensure the course offers a consistent challenge and an enjoyable experience for golfers.

## HOW DO I APPLY?

An apprentice needs to be in paid employment, so whilst you can apply for the Apprenticeship before you find an employer, you'll need to be employed before you can start the course. We are always happy to provide your employers with the information they need regarding potentially employing an Apprentice and can offer advice, however small or large businesses may be.

Entry requirements are:

- Must include English and Maths at Grade 3-2 or D-E

## DURATION

On average our level 2 Apprenticeship takes around 20 - 24 months to complete; however the timescale is flexible and will depend on the Apprentices prior experience.

## HOW DOES IT WORK?

- Work in your chosen industry for a minimum of 30 hours per week. Get paid a minimum of the Apprenticeship Wage ([gov.uk/national-minimum-wage-rates](http://gov.uk/national-minimum-wage-rates)).
- Study in a flexible way - students attend College one day a week and work with their employer for the rest of the week.
- Be assessed and graded with either a pass, merit or distinction at the end of your programme by an Independent Assessment Organisation.
- Complete Functional Skills in English and Maths or there is the option to study
- for Maths and English GCSE (depending on previous qualifications)\*. Complete work-related tasks and assessments.
- Receive mentoring visits in your workplace from your Writtle University College Training Officer, who will provide support, assess and review your progress.
- Gain a City & Guilds accredited and nationally recognised qualification.



**What can I do after this apprenticeship?**

After completing an Apprenticeship at level 2, the natural progression route would be to progress on to the level 3 Advanced Apprenticeship, after which the option for continuing study would be to progress in to Higher Education or alternatively the Apprentice can progress in to full time employment within the industry.

[www.writtle.ac.uk/Level-2-Golf-Greenkeeper-Apprenticeship](http://www.writtle.ac.uk/Level-2-Golf-Greenkeeper-Apprenticeship)



# HORTICULTURE & LANDSCAPE OPERATIVE LEVEL 2 APPRENTICESHIP

**HAVE A QUESTION ABOUT THIS APPRENTICESHIP?  
APPRENTICESHIPS@WRITTLE.AC.UK  
01245 424275**



Writtle University College



## ABOUT THE COURSE

Writtle University College are excited to be rolling out the new Horticulture and Landscape Operative Apprenticeship Standard, which has been specifically designed by employers to meet the needs of industry and provide you with the skills and knowledge to succeed in your industry. The Apprenticeship provides a blend of practical hands on experience with the underpinning knowledge. At the end of the Apprenticeship you will be required to complete an independent End-Point Assessment to prove you have gained the required skills to achieve the Apprenticeship.

## HOW DO I APPLY?

An apprentice needs to be in paid employment, so whilst you can apply for the Apprenticeship before you find an employer, you'll need to be employed before you can start the course. We are always happy to provide your employers with the information they need regarding potentially employing an Apprentice and can offer advice, however small or large businesses may be.

Entry requirements are:

- Must include English and Maths at Grade 3-2 or D-E

## DURATION

On average our level 2 Apprenticeship takes around 20 - 24 months to complete; however the timescale is flexible and will depend on the Apprentices prior experience.

## HOW DOES IT WORK?

- Work in your chosen industry for a minimum of 30 hours per week. Get paid a minimum of the Apprenticeship Wage ([gov.uk/national-minimum-wage-rates](http://gov.uk/national-minimum-wage-rates)).
- Study in a flexible way - students attend College one day a week and work with their employer for the rest of the week.
- Be assessed and graded with either a pass, merit or distinction at the end of your programme by an Independent Assessment Organisation.
- Complete Functional Skills in English and Maths or there is the option to study for Maths and English GCSE (depending on previous qualifications)\*.
- Complete work-related tasks and assessments.
- Receive mentoring visits in your work place from your Writtle University College Training Officer, who will provide support, assess and review your progress.
- Gain a City & Guilds accredited and nationally recognised qualification.



**What can I do after this apprenticeship?**

After completing an Apprenticeship at level 2, the natural progression route would be to progress on to the level 3 Advanced Apprenticeship, after which the option for continuing study would be to progress in to Higher Education or alternatively the Apprentice can progress in to full time employment within the industry.

[www.writtle.ac.uk/Level-2-Horticulture-and-Landscape-Operative-Apprenticeship](http://www.writtle.ac.uk/Level-2-Horticulture-and-Landscape-Operative-Apprenticeship)



# SPORTS TURF OPERATIVE APPRENTICESHIP (INCLUDING FOOTBALL, RUGBY AND CRICKET PITCHES)

**HAVE A QUESTION ABOUT THIS APPRENTICESHIP?  
APPRENTICESHIPS@WRITTLE.AC.UK  
01245 424275**



Writtle University College



## ABOUT THE COURSE

Writtle University College are excited to be rolling out the new Sports Turf Operative Apprenticeship Standards, which has been specifically designed by employers to meet the needs of industry and provide you with the skills and knowledge to succeed in your industry. A Sports Turf Operative is responsible for the maintenance and renovation and overall appearance of one or more sports turf surfaces in accordance with the needs of the particular sport. It is their job to maintain an appropriate quality playing surface which reflects the carrying capacity of that surface to ensure that a sustainable playing surface is provided.

## HOW DO I APPLY?

An apprentice needs to be in paid employment, so whilst you can apply for the Apprenticeship before you find an employer, you'll need to be employed before you can start the course. We are always happy to provide your employers with the information they need regarding potentially employing an Apprentice and can offer advice, however small or large businesses may be.

Entry requirements are:

- Must include English and Maths at Grade 3-2 or D-E

## DURATION

On average our level 2 Apprenticeship takes around 20 - 24 months to complete; however the timescale is flexible and will depend on the Apprentices prior experience.

## HOW DOES IT WORK?

- Work in your chosen industry for a minimum of 30 hours per week. Get paid a minimum of the Apprenticeship Wage ([gov.uk/national-minimum-wage-rates](http://gov.uk/national-minimum-wage-rates)).
- Study in a flexible way - students attend College one day a week and work with their employer for the rest of the week.
- Be assessed and graded with either a pass, merit or distinction at the end of your programme by an Independent Assessment Organisation.
- Complete Functional Skills in English and Maths or there is the option to study for Maths and English GCSE (depending on previous qualifications)\*.
- Complete work-related tasks and assessments.
- Receiving mentoring visits in your workplace from your Writtle University College Training Officer, who will provide support, assess and review your progress.
- Gain a City & Guilds accredited and nationally recognised qualification.



**What can I do after this apprenticeship?**

After completing an Apprenticeship at level 2, the natural progression route would be to progress on to the level 3 Advanced Apprenticeship, after which the option for continuing study would be to progress in to Higher Education or alternatively the Apprentice can progress in to full time employment within the industry.

[www.writtle.ac.uk/Level-2-Sports-Turf-Operative-Apprenticeship](http://www.writtle.ac.uk/Level-2-Sports-Turf-Operative-Apprenticeship)

# ARBORIST (LEVEL 2 APPRENTICESHIP STANDARD)

HAVE A QUESTION ABOUT THIS  
APPRENTICESHIP?  
APPRENTICESHIPS@WRITTLE.AC.UK  
01245 424275



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## ABOUT THE COURSE

Writtle University College are excited to be offering the new Arborist Apprenticeship Standard, which has been specifically designed by employers to meet the needs of industry and provide you with the skills and knowledge to succeed in your industry. As an Arborist Apprentice you will need to be committed to learning both the practical and vital underpinning knowledge needed to work in this role. An arborist will undertake aerial tree work but will also undertake ground-based activities. Your work as an arborist involves diverse activities such as chainsaw work, aerial tree work, pruning, dismantling and using appropriate machinery such as brushwood chippers.

## HOW DO I APPLY?

An apprentice needs to be in paid employment, so whilst you can apply for the Apprenticeship before you find an employer, you'll need to be employed before you can start the course. We are always happy to provide your employers with the information they need regarding potentially employing an Apprentice and can offer advice, however small or large businesses may be.

Entry requirements are:

- Must include English and Maths at Grade 3-2 or D-E

## START DATE

The Apprenticeship program normally has two intakes in a year, in October and early spring.

## DURATION

On average our Arborist Level 2 Apprenticeship takes around 24 months to complete; however the timescale is flexible and will depend on the Apprentices prior experience.

## HOW DOES IT WORK?

- The course involves one day a week attendance at college, where you will work with your qualified, industry experienced lecturer. Then you will be with your employer for the remainder of the working week. Your lecturer will also visit you in the workplace approximately every 10 weeks to meet with you and your employer.
- Work in your chosen industry for a minimum of 30 hours per week. Get paid a minimum of the Apprenticeship Wage ([gov.uk/national-minimum-wage-rates](http://gov.uk/national-minimum-wage-rates)).
- Study in a flexible way - students attend College one day a week and work with their employer for the rest of the week.
- Be assessed and graded with either a pass, merit or distinction at the end
- of your programme by an Independent Assessment Organisation.
- Complete Functional Skills in English and Maths or there is the option to study for Maths and English GCSE (depending on previous qualifications)\*.
- Complete work-related tasks and assessments.
- Receiving mentoring visits in your workplace from your Writtle University College Training Officer, who will provide support, assess and review your
- progress.
- Gain a City & Guilds accredited and nationally recognised qualification.



What modules will I cover on this apprenticeship?

Just some of the modules include:

- Process tree work arisings using appropriate machinery
- Recognise a range of tree and shrub species using common and scientific names
- Identify pests, diseases, disorders and tree defects
- Carry out a range of ground-based pruning operations
- Fell and process small trees
- Work safely at height in the tree under supervision

[www.writtle.ac.uk/Arborist-\(level-2-Apprenticeship-Standard\)](http://www.writtle.ac.uk/Arborist-(level-2-Apprenticeship-Standard))

In this ever changing situation, we will be working towards the following principles to effectively deliver our programmes and to ensure safety of all our students and staff at WUC:

**1**

## Online sessions

When theory sessions are online, we will support these with forums, group discussions, exercises, quizzes and tutor-led Q and A sessions, encouraging an interactive experience with your course lecturers and fellow classmates.



**2**

## Practical sessions

Where practical or studio sessions are part of the your programme, we will aim to run these, in line with social distancing measures, in appropriately-sized areas in groups of no more than 20.



**3**

## Appropriate PPE

Students will be required to wear appropriate face coverings - and will be asked to provide 2 washable face coverings for their own use. Students who have lab sessions will be asked to bring their own white lab coat.



**4**

## Code of conduct

Students will be required to follow a strict Covid-19 Code of Conduct, including the wearing of face coverings as directed, and advised against the sharing of equipment.



**5**

## Equipment

We ask that you review the Equipment list for your course programme and ensure that you have a personal laptop. If you are concerned about financing equipment required to study your course, please get in touch by emailing [askalecturer@writtle.ac.uk](mailto:askalecturer@writtle.ac.uk)

**6**

## Study tours

Following government advice, some of our UK study tours and overseas trips will not be able to run over the course of the next academic year.

We will however ensure that your course continues to have a varied industry perspective and learning experience by local industry visits and online guest speakers / virtual events.



**7**

## Classroom Layouts

You will be taught in classrooms which allow social distancing, with tables all facing forwards

## We're here to help

If you have any concerns, special needs or requirements that you would like to discuss with us, please do not hesitate to get in touch.



E: [askalecturer@writtle.ac.uk](mailto:askalecturer@writtle.ac.uk)

**8**