

# Qualification Guide

## OCNLR Level 3 Diploma in Equine Assisted Services

## OCN London Qualification Guide

OCNLR Level 3 Diploma in Equine Assisted Services  
Qualification No: 610/2272/X

OCN London aims to support learning and widening opportunities by recognising achievement through credit-based courses and qualifications, promoting high standards of excellence and inclusiveness. We are proud of our long-term role and unique history in providing innovative learning solutions for a wide range of learners and particularly those who have not previously benefitted from education.

At the heart of what OCN London offers is:

- a commitment to inclusive credit-based learning;
- the creative use of credit with responsive, demand-led qualification development;
- high quality service and support;
- respect for and encouragement of diversity – in learners and learning approaches, partners and settings;
- the development of people, capacity and resources that will ensure effective business partnerships.

### **To navigate within this Qualification Guide**

To locate a section in this electronic guide, click on the heading in the table of contents, on page 4. To return to the contents page, click again on any major heading within the document. Users can of course also scroll through pages in the usual way.

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## General Information

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This qualification guide contains details of everything you need to know about the **OCNLR Level 3 Diploma in Equine Assisted Services**. It makes reference to the curriculum areas covered and identifies the learners for whom the qualification has been developed. The guide also covers important aspects of assessment and moderation that are particular to the qualification. The guide should be used by all involved in the delivery and assessment of the qualification. The Account Manager for your Centre will provide support and advice on how to seek approval to offer the qualification.

If you are not yet an OCN London Approved Centre but wish to use this qualification, then please contact us on [enquiries@ocnlondon.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@ocnlondon.org.uk) for details of the Centre Approval application process.

## Qualification Overview

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The **OCNLR Level 3 Diploma in Equine Assisted Services** is aimed at individuals who are already working, or intending to work, as facilitators, teachers or trainers in the specialised field of equine assisted service provision.

The qualification has been developed in collaboration with nationally recognised service providers, training organisations and sector experts, competent to set benchmark standards for facilitators of equine assisted services.

Learners will benefit by gaining knowledge and understanding of using unmounted equine assisted services to improve outcomes for people with moderate wellbeing needs. The qualification also satisfies quality assurance requirements, helping centre leaders and staff demonstrate they have appropriate skills, knowledge and understanding through the achievement of a meaningful qualification.

The **OCNLR Level 3 Diploma in Equine Assisted Services** qualification is regulated by Ofqual, the qualifications regulator for England, and are registered on the Regulated Qualifications Framework (RQF). It is not a licence to practise.

### Qualification details

This Qualification is available at this level only.

### Level 3 Diploma in Equine Assisted Services

- Qualification Number: 610/2272/X
- Qualification credit value: 34
- Operational start date: 03/04/2023
- Review date: 02/03/2025
- Total Qualification Time (TQT): 340
- Guided Learning Hours (GLH): 340
- Assessment requirements: internally assessed, internally and externally moderated

### Purpose of the qualification

The purpose of the **OCNLR Level 3 Diploma in Equine Assisted Services** is to enable professional staff working or intending to work in relevant equine environments to learn and deliver equine assisted services to learners with moderate wellbeing needs. The qualification also provides evidence of appropriate qualification for licencing and tendering to local authorities.

### Who the qualification is for

The **OCNLR Level 3 Diploma in Equine Assisted Services** is suitable for learners working in or intending to work in relevant environments relating to equine assisted services or wishing to enter relevant equine assisted professions.

### **Entry guidance**

The minimum age for access to the qualification is 16 years.

### **Progression and related qualifications**

This qualification will enable existing staff to continue to work in relevant equine environments and allow those wishing to enter these professions to do so in compliance with the local authority requirements.

Further training(s) may be required to work with service users who have more specific psychological, physical or social needs or with multiple complex needs.

## Structure of the qualification

### Rules of combination for achievement

The OCNLR Level 3 Diploma in Equine Assisted Services comprises five mandatory units. Learners must achieve 34 credits in total.

### Qualification units

Ofqual Unit Reference Number	OCNLR Unit Code	Unit Title	Level	Credit Value	GLH
<b>Mandatory</b>					
<a href="#">H/651/9261</a>	SP2/3/LQ/012	Care and welfare of horses in Equine Assisted Services (EAS)	L3	4	40
<a href="#">D/650/6308</a>	SP2/3/LQ/013	Care and welfare of participants in Equine Assisted Services (EAS)	L3	6	60
<a href="#">F/651/9260</a>	SP2/3/LQ/014	Business and compliance in Equine Assisted Services (EAS)	L3	6	60
<a href="#">L/651/9264</a>	SP2/3/LQ/015	Working with horses in Equine Assisted Services (EAS)	L3	6	60
<a href="#">K/651/9263</a>	SP2/3/LQ/016	Providing sessions in Equine Assisted Services (EAS)	L3	12	120

## Assessment and Moderation

### Assessment process

The assessment process for this qualification is as follows:

- The learners are assessed through activities that are internally set by tutor assessors;
- The activities must be designed to enable learners to meet the assessment criteria of the unit;
- Learners' portfolios of assessed evidence must be internally moderated at the Centre;
- The portfolios of assessed evidence will be externally moderated by an OCN London External Moderator.

There is no additional external assessment for this qualification.

### Devising assessments

Each unit has a supplementary page with information on the types of assessment activities that can (indicated as 'Optional' or 'O') and/or must (indicated as 'Prescribed' or 'P') be used to assess learners against the unit. Tutor assessors must always refer to this page before devising assessment tasks.

OCN London assessment guidance relevant to the units in this qualification is in the ['OCNLR Assessment Guidance and Ofqual Level Descriptors'](#) section of this qualification guide. The guidance includes a general description of the activity and the type of evidence that is appropriate. The activity or activities set must enable the learners to meet the standards detailed in the assessment criteria. Please contact OCN London for further guidance on devising appropriate assessments.

Centre devised assessments should be scrutinised by the Internal Moderator before use to ensure that they are fit for purpose. Centre devised assessments will be scrutinised by the External Moderator to ensure reliability and validity of assessment.

### Marking assessment activities

Each activity must be marked against the identified assessment criteria in the unit and judged to be either achieved or not achieved.

Assessors need to ensure that the work in a learner's portfolio is:

- Authentic – it is the result of the learner's own performance or activity;
- Sufficient – enabling the assessor to make a consistent and reliable judgement;
- Adequate – appropriate to the level.

Where a series of activities are set, learners must demonstrate the achievement of the required standard identified in the assessment criteria in all activities. All of the assessment criteria in a unit must be met before the unit is deemed achieved.

The unit achievement is not graded. Units are either achieved or not achieved.

### Standardisation

Standardisation is a process that promotes consistency in the understanding and application of standards in relation to assessment. It:

- compares assessment judgements from different tutor/assessors;
- promotes consistent judgements by different tutor/assessors;
- identifies good practice in assessment;
- promotes the sharing of good practice in assessment between centre staff.

Standardisation events should be held periodically within centres to ensure consistent and effective assessment practice. Standardisation events may also be held by OCN London and it is a requirement that each Centre offering units from this qualification must contribute assessment materials and learners' evidence for standardisation, if requested.

OCN London will notify Centres of the required sample for standardisation purposes and assessment materials, learners' evidence and tutor feedback may be collected by External Moderators.

### Learners with particular requirements

If learners have particular requirements the Centre should refer to the 'Access to Fair Assessment Policy and Procedure' which can be found on our website at: [Access to Fair Assessment Policy and Procedure](#) and gives clear guidance on the reasonable adjustments and arrangements that can be made to take account of disability or learning difficulty, without compromising the achievement of the assessment criteria.

### Requirements for tutor/assessors

#### To be sufficiently competent

In addition to being qualified to make assessment decisions, each assessor must be capable of carrying out the full requirements within the competency of the units they are assessing. This competence should be maintained annually through clearly demonstrable continuing learning and professional development.

Expert witnesses can be used where they have suitable expertise for specialist areas. The use of expert witnesses should be determined and agreed by the assessor.

**To be sufficiently knowledgeable**

Each assessor should possess relevant knowledge and understanding of the subject and so be able to make robust and reliable assessment decisions in relation to the subject.

## Assessment Guidance and Ofqual Level Descriptors

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For OCN London's Assessment Guidance and Ofqual's Level Descriptor relevant to this qualification, please click on the link below.

[Level 3 Assessment Guidance and Ofqual's Level Descriptors](#)



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