



CITY & GUILDS NPTC LEVEL 2 AWARD IN THE SAFE APPLICATION OF PESTICIDES USING PEDESTRIAN HAND HELD EQUIPMENT (PA6) (601/5145/6)

Version 1.0 (February 2024)

Qualification Handbook

Qualification at a glance

Subject area	Pesticides
City & Guilds number	0216
Age group approved	16+
Entry requirements	Candidate must meet minimum age requirements, Completion of unit 049
Assessment	To gain this qualification, candidates must successfully achieve the following assessments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One to one practical assessment with oral questioning by an NPTC City & Guilds approved assessor
Grading	Met/Not Met
Approvals	Full Centre approval required
Support materials	Qualification Handbook (candidates). Assessment materials (approved assessment Centers only).
Registration and certification	Consult the Walled Garden/Online Catalogue for last Registration and Certification dates.

Title and level	City & Guilds qualification number	Regulatory reference number	GLH	TQT
City & Guilds Level 2 Award in The Safe Application of Pesticides Using Pedestrian Hand Held Equipment	0216-54	601/5145/6	54	60

Version and date	Change detail	Section
1.0 February 2024	Initial version	All

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1 Introduction

This document tells you what you need to do to deliver the **City & Guilds Level 2 Award in The Safe Application of Pesticides Using Pedestrian Hand Held Equipment (0216-54)**

Area	Description
Who is the qualification for?	<p>This is an Independently Assessed qualification (PA6)</p> <p>Type of Learner: If your job involves applying pesticides in a commercial role then you are legally required by the Plant Protection Products (Sustainable Use) Regulations (2012) to take this qualification.</p> <p>Qualification Overview: This qualification is designed specifically for those who wish to apply pesticides using various types of handheld applicators. The award will supersede the old 0216 (pa6) unit.</p> <p>What you need to do: Candidates to undertake an oral and practical assessment</p>
What does the qualification cover?	<p>This qualification covers the requirements for the safe application of pesticides using pedestrian hand held equipment.</p> <p>Please refer to the Qualification Handbook for more detail.</p>
What opportunities for progression are there?	<p>Pre-requisite – 0216-49 City & Guilds Level 2 Principles of Safe Handling and Application of Pesticides</p> <p>Recommended progression onto 0216-63 – City & Guilds Level 3 Award in Responsible Pesticide Management.</p> <p>Once a candidate has successfully completed this qualification, they are able to legally apply pesticides using the methods and equipment identified within this qualification.</p>

Area	Description
Who did we develop the qualification with?	Developed with the Health and Safety Executive, Chemical Regulation Division, Voluntary Initiative and practicing industry stakeholders, DEFRA, Environment Agency.

Is it part of an apprenticeship framework or initiative?	No
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Assessment Guidance for the Candidate

A list of registered Assessment Centres is available from City & Guilds NPTC.
(www.nptc.org.uk)

Assessment is a process by which it is confirmed that the candidate is competent in the unit(s) within the award to which the assessment relates. It is the process of collecting evidence about the candidates capabilities and judging whether that evidence is sufficient to attribute competence.

The Candidate must be registered through the City & Guilds approved Assessment Centre for this qualification prior to the assessment.

Structure

To achieve the City & Guilds Level 2 Award in The Safe Application of Pesticides Using Pedestrian Hand Held Equipment (0216-54) learners must achieve:

City & Guilds unit number	Unit title	GLH
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Pre-Requisite unit from 2016-49:

Learners must have achieved **this** mandatory unit prior:

101	Principles of Safe Handling and Application of Pesticides (PA1)	26
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Optional units:

Learners must achieve **one** of the following **seven** units from the optional units.

151	Operating pedestrian hand held applicators fitted with hydraulic nozzles or rotary atomisers to apply pesticides to land (PA6A) (A/505/7736)	28
152	Operating pedestrian hand held applicators fitted with hydraulic nozzles or rotary atomisers to apply pesticides to or near water (PA6AW) (F/505/7740)	28
153	Operating pedestrian hand held applicators to apply pesticide pellets or granules to land (PA6G) (R/505/7743)	28
154	Operating pedestrian hand held applicators to apply pesticide pellets or granules to or near water (PA6GW) (D/505/7745)	28
155	Installing pesticide plugs in tree stumps (PA6PP) (K/505/7747)	28
156	Operating hand held pesticide injection equipment (PA6INJ) (M/505/7748)	28
157	Operating other hand held applicators requiring minimal calibration (PA6MC) (K/505/7750)	28

Total Qualification Time (TQT)

Total Qualification Time (TQT) is the number of notional hours which represents an estimate of the total amount of time that could reasonably be expected for a learner to demonstrate the achievement of the level of attainment necessary for the award of a qualification.

TQT comprises of the following two elements:

- 1) the number of hours that an awarding organisation has assigned to a qualification for guided learning
- 2) an estimate of the number of hours a learner will reasonably be likely to spend in preparation, study or any other form of participation in education or training, including assessment, which takes place as directed by – but, unlike guided learning, not under the immediate guidance or supervision of – a lecturer, supervisor, tutor or other appropriate provider of education or training.

Title and level	GLH	TQT
City & Guilds NPTC Level 2 Award in The Safe Application of Pesticides Using Pedestrian Hand Held Equipment (0216-54)	54	60

2 Centre requirements

Approval

Full approval

To offer this qualification, new centres will need to gain both centre and qualification approval. Please refer to the document **Centre Approval process: Quality Standards** for further information. Please email **qasupport@cityandguilds.com** for further information on the approval process.

Centre staffing

Staff delivering these qualifications must be able to demonstrate that they meet the following requirements:

- be technically competent in the areas in which they are delivering
- be able to deliver across the breadth and depth of the content of the qualification being taught
- have recent relevant teaching and assessment experience in the specific area they will be teaching, or be working towards this
- demonstrate continuing CPD.

Centre staff should familiarise themselves with the structure, content and assessment requirements of the qualification before delivering a course programme.

Physical resources

Centres must be able to demonstrate that they have access to the equipment and technical resources required to deliver this qualification and its assessments.

Assessment Guidance for the Assessor

Staff assessing these qualifications must be approved Certificate of Competence City & Guilds NPTC Assessors and must be independent and cannot have been involved with the training of the Candidate. This qualification can only be assessed by an Assessor who is suitably qualified and meets the requirements of the awarding body.

Certificate of Competence City & Guilds NPTC Assessors must meet the following requirements:

- show competence and provide evidence of industry expertise in the qualification/s they wish to assess
- hold the qualification as a candidate and have been technically evaluated as an Assessor
- be up to date with their verification and relevant first aid
- demonstrate continuing technically relevant CPD Compliance with these requirements is a pre-requisite for Assessors remaining on the list of approved Assessors.

Verification is a process of monitoring assessment; it is an essential check to confirm that the assessment procedures are being carried out in the way City & Guilds has laid down. The overall aim of verification is to establish a system of quality assurance that is acceptable in terms of both credibility and cost effectiveness and approved Assessors will be subject to a regular visit by the Verifier at a time when assessments are being undertaken.

A selection of assessment reports completed by the Assessor will be evaluated by a City & Guilds approved Quality Consultant.

Safe Practice

Appropriate PPE must be worn at all times All equipment must be operated in such a way that the Candidate, Assessor, other persons, animals or other equipment are not endangered.

If these conditions are not observed this will result in the Candidate not meeting the required standard.

Validation of Equipment

Any item(s) equipment used for the assessment must comply with current legal requirements.

Additional information may be sought from the relevant manufacturer's instruction book, operators' manual, product label/database or any other Government/Government Agency publication.

Appeals and Equal opportunities

Centres must have their own auditable, appeals procedures. If a Candidate is not satisfied with the examination conditions or a Candidate feels the opportunity for examination is being denied, the Centre Manager should, in the first instance, address the problem. If, however the problem cannot be resolved, City & Guilds will arbitrate and a Principal Verifier may be approached to offer independent advice.

All appeals must be clearly documented by the Centre Manager and made available to the Principal Verifier or City & Guilds if advice is required.

Should occasions arise when Centres are not satisfied with any aspect of the verification process, they should contact the Quality Assurance Manager at City & Guilds NPTC, 5-6 Giltspur Street, London, EC1A 9DE, UK.

Access to the qualification is open to all, irrespective of gender, race, creed or special needs. Subject to H&S restrictions the Centre Manager should ensure that no learner is subjected to unfair discrimination on any grounds in relation to access to assessment and to the fairness of the assessment. QCA requires City & Guilds to monitor centres to check whether equal opportunities policies are being adhered to.

Quality assurance

Approved centres must have effective quality assurance systems to ensure optimum delivery and assessment of qualifications. Quality assurance includes initial centre approval, qualification approval and the centre's own internal procedures for monitoring quality. Centres are responsible for internal quality assurance and City & Guilds is responsible for external quality assurance. All external quality assurance processes reflect the minimum requirements for verified and moderated assessments, as detailed in the Centre Assessment Standards Scrutiny (CASS), section H2 of Ofqual's General Conditions. For more information on both CASS and City and Guilds Quality Assurance processes visit: the [What is CASS?](#) and [Quality Assurance Standards](#) documents on the City & Guilds website.

Learner entry requirements

As part of the assessment for this qualification, learners must have achieved PA1 0216-49 Principles of Safe Handling and Application of Pesticides prior to completing this qualification.

Age restrictions

This qualification is approved for learners aged 16 or above.

Access arrangements and reasonable adjustments

Access arrangements are adjustments that allow candidates with disabilities, special educational needs, and temporary injuries to access the assessment and demonstrate their skills and knowledge without changing the demands of the assessment. These arrangements must be made before assessment takes place.

The Equality Act 2010 requires City & Guilds to make reasonable adjustments where a disabled person would be at a substantial disadvantage in undertaking an assessment.

It is the responsibility of the centre to ensure at the start of a programme of learning that candidates will be able to access the requirements of the qualification.

Please refer to the JCQ access arrangements and reasonable adjustments and Access arrangements - when and how applications need to be made to City & Guilds for more information. Both are available on the City & Guilds website:

<http://www.cityandguilds.com/delivering-our-qualifications/centre-development/centre-document-library/policies-and-procedures/access-arrangements-reasonable-adjustments>

3 Delivering the qualification

Initial assessment and induction

An initial assessment of each learner should be made before the start of their programme to identify:

- if the learner has any specific training needs
- support and guidance they may need when working towards their qualification.
- any units they have already completed or credit they have accumulated which is relevant to the qualification
- the appropriate type and level of qualification.

We recommend that centres provide an induction programme so the learner fully understands the requirements of the qualification, their responsibilities as a learner and the responsibilities of the centre. This information can be recorded on a learning contract.

Support materials

The following resources are available for this qualification:

Description	How to access
Candidate Handbook	www.nptc.org.uk
Assessment Pack (available only to assessors)	www.nptc.org.uk

4 Assessment

Assessment of the qualification

Candidates must:

- have a completed practical observation with oral questioning for each optional unit.

Assessment types

Unit	Title	Assessment method	Where to obtain assessment materials
151	Operating pedestrian hand held applicators fitted with hydraulic nozzles or rotary atomisers to apply pesticides to land	Practical observations with oral questioning. Centres may use the materials provided by City & Guilds.	www.nptc.org.uk
152	Operating pedestrian hand held applicators fitted with hydraulic nozzles or rotary atomisers to apply pesticides to or near water	Practical observations with oral questioning. Centres may use the materials provided by City & Guilds.	www.nptc.org.uk
153	Operating pedestrian hand held applicators to apply pesticide pellets or granules to land	Practical observations with oral questioning. Centres may use the materials provided by City & Guilds.	www.nptc.org.uk
154	Operating pedestrian hand held applicators to apply pesticide pellets or granules to or near water	Practical observations with oral questioning. Centres may use the materials provided by City & Guilds.	www.nptc.org.uk
155	Installing pesticide plugs in tree stumps	Practical observations with oral questioning. Centres may use the materials provided by City & Guilds.	www.nptc.org.uk

156	Operating hand held pesticide injection equipment	Practical observations with oral questioning. Centres may use the materials provided by City & Guilds.	www.nptc.org.uk
157	Operating other hand held applicators requiring minimal calibration	Practical observations with oral questioning. Centres may use the materials provided by City & Guilds.	www.nptc.org.uk

Assessment strategy

City & Guilds has written the practical observations with oral questioning for each optional unit to use with this qualification, live assessment materials can be downloaded by the assessor via the Assessment Pack from the NPTC website.

Time constraints

The following must be applied to the assessment of this qualification:

Candidates must finish their assessment within 24 months of date of initial registration.

Assessments should take no longer than 1.5 – 3 hours.

Qualification registration is valid for two years.

Summary of responsibilities in the assessment process		
Centre responsibilities	Candidate responsibilities	Assessor responsibilities
A suitable site is made available for the assessment to take place		Ensuring that the site provided is suitable for the assessment to take place
Machinery, equipment and materials are available to enable assessment of all the activities to take place	To be familiar with the machinery/equipment being used for the assessment	Ensuring that the machinery, equipment and materials provided satisfy the assessment requirements
	To bring appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) to the assessment	Ensuring that candidate's PPE complies with the requirements of the assessment
	To bring relevant training materials (including calibration sheet if applicable)	
	To bring a product label appropriate for the assessment	To ensure that the product label is appropriate for the assessment (or provide a suitable alternative)

5 Units

Structure of the units

These units each have the following:

- City & Guilds reference number
- title
- level
- guided learning hours (GLH)
- unit aim
- assessment type
- learning outcomes, which are comprised of a number of assessment criteria

Guidance for delivery of the units

This qualification comprises a number of **units**. A unit describes what is expected of a competent person in particular aspects of their job.

Each **unit** is divided into **learning outcomes** which describe in further detail the skills and knowledge that a candidate should possess.

Each **learning outcome** has a set of **assessment criteria** (performance and knowledge and understanding) which specify the desired criteria that must be satisfied before an individual can be said to have performed to the agreed standard.

Unit 151

Operating pedestrian hand held applicators fitted with hydraulic nozzles or rotary atomisers to apply pesticides to land

Level:	2
GLH:	28
Assessment type:	Practical Observation with Oral Questioning
Aim:	The aim of this unit is for the candidate to safely apply pesticides using hand held hydraulic nozzles or rotary atomisers.

Learning outcome

The learner will:

LO1 Know the legislative and safety regulations relating to applicator use (**Criteria 1.1 – 1.2**)

Assessment criteria

The learner can:

AC1.1 Describe the legal requirements relating to applying pesticides using hand held pedestrian equipment

AC1.2 Describe how to apply pesticides safely using hand held pedestrian equipment following industry best practice

Topic 1.1

May include:

- all required guards are in place and equipment complies with legal requirements
- comply with The Plant Protection Products (Sustainable Use) Regulations 2012
- the operator must hold the appropriate certification for the equipment they are using

Topic 1.2

May include:

- comply with Pesticides Codes of Practice
- adopt industry best practice

- be aware of any safety implications imposed by Risk/COSHH Assessment and comply with the requirements

Overall treatment includes:

- consistent walking speed
- regular pumping to maintain constant pressure
- consistent nozzle height
- accurate on/off points
- matching of bouts
- avoidance of off target application

Spot treatment includes:

- use of a suitable nozzle
- maintaining a suitable height
- timed treatment
- avoidance of under/over dosing
- avoidance of off target application

Learning outcome

The learner will:

LO2 Be able to assess the environmental factors relating to mixing and application (**Criteria 2.1 – 2.2**)

Assessment criteria

The learner can:

AC2.1 Identify risks to the environment

AC2.2 Explain how to minimise risks to the environment

Topic 2.1

May include the following:

- ground conditions
- water courses
- drains
- boreholes
- environmental margins/strips/areas
- wildlife
- non-target plants
- sensitive crops/areas
- hedgerows
- housing
- public access
- other risks particular to the site

Topic 2.2

Explanation may include the following points:

- check and maintain application rate
- avoid spray drift
- avoid off target application
- observe buffer zones
- inform neighbours
- erect warning signs
- use an appropriate pesticide (minimal environmental impact)
- appropriate timing of application

Reasons for minimising spray drift:

- avoidance of contamination to people and the environment, including the aquatic environment

Check and comment on wind speed:

- use of anemometer at suitable height or visual signs
- wind direction

Factors that affect spray drift:

- weather conditions
- direction of spraying
- nozzle type and size
- pressure
- walking speed
- nozzle height
- rotary atomiser speed
- defective equipment

Learning outcome

The learner will:

LO3 Be able to read and interpret product information (**Criteria 3.1 – 3.2**)

Assessment criteria

The learner can:

AC3.1 Read product information

AC3.2 Interpret product information

Topic 3.1 – 3.2

To include the following:

- product name
- active substance(s) (ingredient(s))

Important information:

- field of use
- crop/target
- maximum individual dose

- maximum total dose
- maximum number of treatments

May include the following:

- specific product precautions/warnings
- operator protection
- environmental protection
- restrictions on use

Crop specific information:

- crop/target
- dose rate
- water volume
- timing

Mixing and spraying:

- filling
- reduced volume applications (if applicable)
- recommended nozzles
- recommended pressure
- spray quality
- additional label information
- compatibility

Learning outcome

The learner will:

LO4 Be able to prepare and calibrate a hand held pedestrian applicator (**Criteria 4.1 – 4.6**)

Assessment criteria

The learner can:

AC4.1 Carry out pre use checks to the sprayer/applicator

AC4.2 Identify suitable operating pressure and select nozzles according to application requirements

AC4.3 Calibrate the sprayer/applicator and record relevant data

AC4.4 Measure the area to be treated

AC4.5 Calculate the area to be treated

AC4.6 Calculate the quantities of pesticide and water required if applicable

Topic 4.1

To include:

- sprayer/applicator de-pressurised

Sprayer/applicator components to be inspected for serviceability and contamination that may include:

- tank
- lid
- filters
- hoses
- connections

- seals
- on/off control
- lance
- straps
- pump, visual assessment only
- batteries (if applicable)
- engine (if applicable)

Part fill applicator and check for satisfactory operation:

- sprayer/applicator checked for leaks under pressure
- any problems identified to be rectified if within operators level of responsibility and ability
- condition confirmed as suitable for operation

Topic 4.2

Identify and explain the use of nozzles:

- deflector - medium/coarse spray quality. Generally used to apply herbicides
- air inclusion - medium/coarse spray quality. Good drift reduction properties
- full cone - medium/coarse spray quality. Suitable for spot treatment and spraying around obstacles
- fan nozzle - fine, medium or coarse spray quality. General purpose
- hollow cone - fine spray quality. Generally used for insecticide and fungicide treatment

Fit required nozzle and select pressure:

- suitable nozzle selected
- nozzle fitted correctly • correct pressure selected

Check nozzle condition and spray pattern:

- nozzle undamaged
- correct spray pattern for nozzle

Topic 4.3

Calibration to include:

- calculation of water volume rate
- check water volume rate against product information recommendations

Calibration data may include:

- applicator used
- walking speed
- nozzle(s) fitted (spray width if appropriate)
- pressure setting
- flow rate

Topic 4.4

To include:

- Accurate measurement of dimensions

Topic 4.5

To include:

- Accurate calculation of area

Topic 4.6

To include:

- amount of water required for specified area
- amount of pesticide required for specified area
- amount of pesticide required for full tank

Learning outcome

The learner will:

LO5 Be able to operate the application equipment (**Criteria 5.1 – 5.4**)

Assessment criteria

The learner can:

AC5.1 Measure the required quantities and add to the sprayer/applicator, or attach pesticide container

AC5.2 Demonstrate safe and accurate application procedures

AC5.3 Carry out all activities protecting human health and the environment

AC5.4 Complete a treatment record

Topic 5.1

To include:

- correct selection and use of PPE (as required by the product label and/or COSHH Assessment)
- observance of pesticide manufacturers instructions for mixing sequence and agitation (or other recommended method)
- suitable site selected
- clean water supply
- accurate measurement of water
- accurate measurement of pesticide
- avoidance of spillage or
- attach a pesticide container
- return to secure storage

Topic 5.2

To include:

- treatment area clearly identified
- walking speed maintained
- accurate switching on/off points
- accurate matching of bouts
- obstacles dealt with correctly (if applicable)

- area treated minimising overlaps and misses
- awareness of changing weather conditions and appropriate action taken (if applicable)
- avoidance of off target application/contamination

Topic 5.3

To include:

- prevention of personal injury and contamination through correct selection and use of PPE (as required by the product information, COSHH and Risk Assessment)
- prevention of public / bystander contamination
- safe filling procedure
- avoidance of spray drift
- avoidance of off target application/contamination
- avoidance of over dosing/under dosing crop/target/plant material

Topic 5.4

Completion of the treatment record must be:

- accurate
- legible (if handwritten)

Learning outcome

The learner will:

LO6 Know how to carry out post-operational procedures (**Criteria 6.1 – 6.3**)

Assessment criteria

The learner can:

AC6.1 Explain how to manage surplus pesticide and dispose of waste material

AC6.2 Explain how to clean and decontaminate the sprayer/applicator

AC6.3 Describe the storage requirements for the sprayer/applicator

Topic 6.1

Surplus concentrate pesticide:

- return to temporary mobile store
- return to fixed store

Containers:

- triple rinsed
- placed in secure storage until disposal
- returned to supplier
- collected by a licensed waste disposal contractor

Packaging:

- thoroughly emptied

- placed in secure storage until disposal
- collected by a licensed waste disposal contractor

Surplus dilute pesticide:

- back on to site as long as it is below the maximum dose rate
- use on another approved crop/target
- treated by specialist treatment facility on site (e.g. a lined bio bed)
- collected by a licensed waste disposal contractor

Topic 6.2

May include:

- select and use appropriate PPE
- appropriate site
- thorough washing with water and suitable cleaning agent (if recommended/required)
- internal and external surfaces
- care to ensure contamination 'hot-spots' are clean
- thorough flushing of system
- safe disposal of contaminated washings
- when cleaning should take place
- safe procedures followed

Topic 6.3

May include:

- ensure the applicator is clean and dry
- inspect for wear and damage
- replace any worn or damaged parts
- frost protection measures implemented
- lubricate as required
- store undercover and out of direct sunlight
- store in a secure area

Unit 151

Operating pedestrian hand held applicators fitted with hydraulic nozzles or rotary atomisers to apply pesticides to land

Supporting information

Evidence requirements

Assessment carried out by oral questioning and practical observation.

Unit guidance

Candidates must successfully achieve all assessment activities in their chosen unit(s).

Safe Practice

The Assessor and Candidate must wear Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) when appropriate.

The Assessor must ensure that a Site Specific Risk Assessment is carried out.

All equipment must be operated in such a way that the Candidate, Assessor, other persons and the environment are not endangered. Failure to operate safely and comply with these requirements will result in the Candidate not meeting the required standard.

A breach of Health and Safety that puts any person at risk during the assessment process will result in the assessment being terminated and the Candidate not meeting the required standard. The Assessor may stop the assessment on the grounds of safety at any time at their discretion.

Candidates who undertake this assessment and have met the requirements are reminded of their legal obligation to receive/undertake appropriate additional training in the use of any equipment that differs from that used during the assessment, but which they are nevertheless qualified to use.

Suggested learning resources

Code of Practice for Using Plant Protection Products.

This is available from www.hse.gov.uk

Unit 152

Operating pedestrian hand held applicators fitted with hydraulic nozzles or rotary atomisers to apply pesticides to or near water

Level:	2
GLH:	28
Assessment type:	Practical Observation with Oral Questioning
Aim:	The aim of this unit is for the candidate to safely operate hydraulic nozzles or rotary atomisers to apply pesticides on or near water.

Learning outcome

The learner will:

LO1 Know the legislative and safety regulations relating to applicator use (**Criteria 1.1 – 1.2**)

Assessment criteria

The learner can:

AC1.1 Describe the legal requirements relating to applying pesticides to or near water using hand held pedestrian equipment

AC1.2 Describe how to apply pesticides safely to or near water using hand held pedestrian equipment following industry best practice

Topic 1.1

May include:

- all required guards are in place and equipment complies with legal requirements
- comply with The Plant Protection Products
- (Sustainable Use) Regulations 2012
- the operator must hold the appropriate certification for the equipment they are using

Both required:

- ensure the pesticide has aquatic approval
- seek environmental agency approval

Topic 1.2

May include:

- comply with Pesticide Codes of Practice
- adopt industry best practice
- be aware of any safety implications imposed by Risk/COSHH Assessment and comply with the requirements

Overall treatment includes:

- consistent walking speed
- regular pumping to maintain constant pressure
- consistent nozzle height
- accurate on/off points
- matching of bouts
- avoidance of off target application

Spot treatment includes:

- use of a suitable nozzle
- maintaining a suitable height
- timed treatment
- avoidance of under/over dosing
- avoidance of off target application

The term on or near water may include the following:

- wet or dry ditches
- drainage channels
- streams
- rivers
- canals
- ponds
- lakes/lochs
- reservoirs
- and areas immediately adjacent

Operator safety considerations:

- check bank stability before applying
- availability of a second person on site
- availability of life ring/rescue devices

Learning outcome

The learner will:

LO2 Be able to assess the environmental factors relating to mixing and application (**Criteria 2.1 – 2.2**)

Assessment criteria

The learner can:

AC2.1 Identify risks to the aquatic environment

AC2.2 Explain how to minimize risks to the environment

Topic 2.1

May include the following:

- ground conditions
- wildlife
- non-target plants
- environmental margins/strips/areas
- hedgerows
- housing
- public access
- sensitive crops/areas
- water courses
- boreholes
- livestock drinking points
- recreational use of water body/course
- water extraction points
- de-oxygenation of water
- removal of fish cover
- removal of bankside wildlife habitat
- removal of bankside vegetation leading to bank erosion
- other risks specific to the site

Topic 2.2

Explanation may include the following points:

- work in an upstream direction
- check weather suitability before treatment
- check downstream uses before treatment
- seek environmental agency approval
- use of an appropriate pesticide (minimal environmental impact)
- appropriate timing of treatment

Reasons for minimizing spray drift:

- check and maintain application rate
- avoid spray drift
- avoid off target application
- exclude livestock
- erect warning signs
- inform neighbours

Check and comment on wind speed

- use of anemometer at suitable height or visual signs
- wind direction

Reasons for minimising spray drift:

- avoidance of contamination to people and the environment, including the aquatic environment

Factors that affect spray drift

- weather conditions
- direction of spraying
- nozzle type and size
- pressure
- walking speed
- nozzle height
- rotary atomiser speed
- defective equipment

Learning outcome

The learner will:

LO3 Be able to read and interpret product information (**Criteria 3.1 – 3.2**)

Assessment criteria

The learner can:

AC3.1 Read product information

AC3.2 Interpret product information

Topic 3.1 – 3.2

To include the following:

- product name
- active substance(s) (ingredient(s))

Important information:

- field of use
- crop/target
- maximum individual dose
- maximum total dose
- maximum number of treatments

May include the following:

- specific product precautions/warnings
- operator protection
- environmental protection
- restrictions on use

Crop specific information:

- target
- dose rate
- water volume
- timing

Mixing and spraying:

- filling
- reduced volume applications (if applicable)
- recommended nozzles
- recommended pressure
- spray quality
- additional label information
- compatibility

Learning outcome

The learner will:

LO4 Be able to prepare and calibrate a hand held pedestrian applicator (**Criteria 4.1 – 4.6**)

Assessment criteria

The learner can:

AC4.1 Carry out pre use checks to the sprayer/applicator

AC4.2 Identify suitable operating pressure and select nozzles according to application requirements

AC4.3 Calibrate the sprayer/applicator and record relevant data

AC4.4 Measure the area to be treated

AC4.5 Calculate the area to be treated

AC 4.6 Calculate the quantities of pesticide and water required, if applicable

Topic 4.1

To include:

- sprayer/applicator de-pressurised

Sprayer/applicator components to be inspected for serviceability and contamination that may include:

- tank
- lid
- filters
- hoses

- connections
- seals
- on/off control
- lance
- straps
- pump, visual assessment only
- batteries (if applicable)
- engine (if applicable)

Part fill applicator and check for satisfactory operation:

- sprayer/applicator checked for leaks under pressure
- any problems identified to be rectified if within operators level of responsibility and ability
- condition confirmed as suitable for operation

Topic 4.2

Identify and explain the use of nozzles:

- deflector - medium/coarse spray quality. Generally used to apply herbicides
- air inclusion - medium/coarse spray quality. Good drift reduction properties
- full cone - medium/coarse spray quality. Suitable for spot treatment and spraying around obstacles
- fan nozzle - fine, medium or coarse spray quality. General purpose

Fit the required nozzle and select pressure

- suitable nozzle selected
- nozzle fitted correctly
- correct pressure selected

Check nozzle condition and spray pattern:

- nozzle undamaged
- correct spray pattern for nozzle

Topic 4.3

Calibration to include:

- calculation of water volume rate
- check water volume rate against product information recommendations

Calibration data may include:

- applicator used
- walking speed
- nozzle(s) fitted (swath width if appropriate)
- pressure setting

Topic 4.4

May include:

- accurate measurement of dimensions

Topic 4.5

May include:

- accurate calculation of area

Topic 4.6

To include:

- amount of water required for specified area
- amount of pesticide required for specified area
- amount of pesticide required for full tank

Learning outcome

The learner will:

LO5 Be able to operate the application equipment (**Criteria 5.1 – 5.4**)

Assessment criteria

The learner can:

AC5.1 Measure the required quantities and add to the applicator, or attach pesticide container

AC5.2 Demonstrate safe and accurate application procedures

AC5.3 Carry out all activities protecting human health and the environment

AC5.4 Complete a treatment record

Topic 5.1

To include:

- correct selection and use of PPE (as required by the product label and/or COSHH Assessment)
- observance of pesticide manufacturers instructions for mixing sequence and agitation (or other recommended method)
- suitable site selected
- clean water supply
- accurate measurement of water
- accurate measurement of pesticide
- avoidance of spillage or
- attach a pesticide container

Topic 5.2

To include:

- bankside safety implemented
- treatment area clearly identified
- walking speed maintained

- accurate switching on/off points
- accurate matching of bouts
- obstacles dealt with correctly (if applicable)
- area treated minimising overlaps and misses
- awareness of changing weather conditions and appropriate action taken (if applicable)
- avoidance of off target application/contamination

Topic 5.3

To include:

- prevention of personal injury and contamination through correct selection and use of PPE (as required by the product information, COSHH and Risk Assessment)
- prevention of public/bystander contamination
- safe filling procedure
- avoidance of spray drift
- avoidance of off target application/contamination
- avoidance of over dosing/under dosing crop/target/plant material
- minimising the impact on the aquatic environment

Topic 5.4

Completion of the treatment record must be:

- accurate
- legible (if handwritten)

Learning outcome

The learner will:

LO6 now how to carry out post-operational procedures (**Criteria 6.1 – 6.3**)

Assessment criteria

The learner can:

AC6.1 Explain how to manage surplus pesticide and dispose of waste material

AC6.2 Explain how to clean and decontaminate the sprayer/applicator

AC6.3 Describe the storage requirements for the sprayer/applicator

Topic 6.1

Surplus concentrate pesticide:

- return to temporary mobile store
- return to fixed store

Containers:

- triple rinsed

- placed in secure storage until disposal
- returned to supplier
- collected by a licensed waste disposal contractor

Packaging:

- thoroughly emptied
- placed in secure storage until disposal
- collected by a licensed waste disposal contractor

Surplus dilute pesticide:

- back on to site as long as it is below the maximum dose rate
- use on another approved crop/target
- treated by specialist treatment facility on site (e.g. a lined bio bed)
- collected by a licensed waste disposal contractor

Topic 6.2

May include:

- select and use appropriate PPE
- appropriate site
- thorough washing with water and suitable cleaning agent (if recommended/required)
- internal and external surfaces
- care to ensure contamination 'hot-spots' are clean
- thorough flushing of system
- safe disposal of contaminated washings
- when cleaning should take place
- safe procedures followed

Topic 6.3

May include:

- ensure the applicator is clean and dry
- inspect for wear and damage
- replace any worn or damaged parts
- frost protection measures implemented
- lubricate as required
- store undercover and out of direct sunlight
- store in a secure area

Unit 152

Operating pedestrian hand held applicators fitted with hydraulic nozzles or rotary atomisers to apply pesticides to or near water

Supporting information

Evidence requirements

Assessment carried out by oral questioning and practical observation.

Unit guidance

Candidates must successfully achieve all assessment activities in their chosen unit(s).

Safe Practice

The Assessor and Candidate must wear Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) when appropriate.

The Assessor must ensure that a Site Specific Risk Assessment is carried out.

All equipment must be operated in such a way that the Candidate, Assessor, other persons and the environment are not endangered. Failure to operate safely and comply with these requirements will result in the Candidate not meeting the required standard.

A breach of Health and Safety that puts any person at risk during the assessment process will result in the assessment being terminated and the Candidate not meeting the required standard. The Assessor may stop the assessment on the grounds of safety at any time at their discretion.

Candidates who undertake this assessment and have met the requirements are reminded of their legal obligation to receive/undertake appropriate additional training in the use of any equipment that differs from that used during the assessment, but which they are nevertheless qualified to use.

Suggested learning resources

Code of Practice for Using Plant Protection Products.

This is available from www.hse.gov.uk

Unit 153

Operating pedestrian hand held applicators to apply pesticide pellets or granules to land

Level:	2
GLH:	28
Assessment type:	Practical Observation with Oral Questioning
Aim:	The aim of this unit is for the candidate to demonstrate how to safely operate hand held applicators in order to apply pesticide pellets or granules to land..

Learning outcome

The learner will:

LO1 Know the legislative and safety regulations relating to applicator use (**Criteria 1.1 – 1.2**)

Assessment criteria

The learner can:

AC1.1 Outline the legal requirements relating to applying pesticide pellets/granules using pedestrian hand held applicators

AC1.2 Describe how to apply pesticide pellets/granules using pedestrian hand held applicators following industry best practice

Topic 1.1

May include:

- all required guards are in place and equipment complies with legal requirements
- comply with The Plant Protection Products (Sustainable Use) Regulations 2012
- the operator must hold the appropriate certification for the equipment they are using

Topic 1.2

May include:

- comply with Pesticide Codes of Practice
- adopt industry best practice

- be aware of any safety implications imposed by Risk/COSHH Assessment and comply with the requirements

Overall treatment includes:

- consistent walking speed
- accurate switching on/off points
- matching of bouts
- avoidance of off target application

Spot treatment includes:

- maintaining a suitable applicator height
- avoidance of under/over dosing
- avoidance of off target application

Learning outcome

The learner will:

LO2 Be able to assess the environmental factors relating to the application site (**Criteria 2.1 – 2.2**)

Assessment criteria

The learner can:

AC2.1 Identify risks to the environment

AC2.2 Explain how to minimize risks to the environment

Topic 2.1

May include the following:

- ground conditions
- water courses
- drains
- boreholes
- environmental margins/strips/areas
- wildlife
- non-target plants
- sensitive crops/areas
- hedgerows
- housing
- public access
- other risks particular to the site

Topic 2.2

Explanation may include the following points:

- check and maintain application rate
- avoid off target application
- observe buffer zones
- inform neighbours
- erect warning signs
- use an appropriate pesticide (minimal environmental impact)
- appropriate timing of application

Reasons for minimising off target application:

- avoidance of contamination to people and the environment

Check and comment on wind speed:

- use of an anemometer at suitable height or visual signs
- wind direction

Factors that affect uniformity of spread:

- weather conditions
- direction of spreading
- pellet/granule density and size
- applicator height
- applicator set level
- defective equipment

Learning outcome

The learner will:

LO3 Be able to read and interpret product information (**Criteria 3.1 – 3.2**)

Assessment criteria

The learner can:

AC3.1 Read product information

AC3.2 Interpret product information

Topic 3.1 and 3.3

To include the following:

- Product name
- active substance(s) (ingredient(s))

Important information:

- field of use
- crop/target
- maximum individual dose
- maximum total dose

- maximum number of treatments

May include the following:

- specific product precautions/warnings
- operator protection
- environmental protection
- restrictions on use

Crop specific information:

- crop/target
- dose rate
- timing
- additional label information

Learning outcome

The learner will:

LO4 Be able to prepare and calibrate a hand held pedestrian applicator (**Criteria 4.1 – 4.6**)

Assessment criteria

The learner can:

AC4.1 Carry out pre-use checks to the applicator

AC4.2 Identify settings and adjustments

AC4.3 Calibrate the applicator and record relevant data

AC4.4 Measure the area to be treated

AC4.5 Calculate the area to be treated

AC4.6 Calculate the quantities of pesticide required

Topic 4.1

Applicator components to be inspected for serviceability and contamination that may include:

- hopper
- lid
- agitator
- metering device
- spinning disc condition
- on/off control
- straps or harness (if applicable)
- wheels and tyres (if applicable)

Topic 4.2

May include:

- height adjustment
- spread width adjustment
- disc speed adjustment

- metering device

Topic 4.3

Calibration may include:

- calculation of walking speed
- measure spread width
- calculate application rate
- check rate against product information recommendations

Calibration data may include:

- walking speed
- applicator used
- height setting
- spread width
- metering device setting
- pellet/granule used

Topic 4.4

To include:

- accurate measurement of dimensions

Topic 4.5

To include:

- accurate calculation of area

Topic 4.6

To include:

- amount of pesticide required for specified area

Learning outcome

The learner will:

LO5 Be able to operate the applicator (**Criteria 5.1 – 5.4**)

Assessment criteria

The learner can:

AC5.1 Measure/weigh the required quantities and add to the applicator

AC5.2 Demonstrate safe and accurate application procedures

AC5.3 Carry out all activities protecting human health and the environment

AC5.4 Complete a treatment record

Topic 5.1

To include all of the following:

- correct selection and use of PPE/RPE (as required by the product label, COSHH and Risk Assessment)
- suitable site selected
- add product following product recommendations and approved procedures
- accurate measurement of pesticide product
- avoidance of spillage

Topic 5.2

To include:

- treatment area clearly identified
- walking speed maintained
- accurate switching on/off points
- accurate matching of bouts
- obstacles dealt with correctly (if applicable)
- area treated minimising overlaps and misses
- awareness of changing weather conditions and appropriate action taken (if applicable)
- avoidance of off target application/contamination

Topic 5.3

To include:

- prevention of personal injury and contamination through correct selection and use of PPE/RPE (as required by the product information, COSHH/Risk Assessment)
- prevention of public/bystander contamination
- safe filling procedure
- avoidance of off target application
- avoidance of over dosing/under dosing crop/target/plant material

Topic 5.4

Completion of the treatment record must be:

- accurate
- legible (if handwritten)

Learning outcome

The learner will:

LO6 Know how to carry out post-operational procedures (**Criteria 6.1 – 6.3**)

Assessment criteria

The learner can:

AC6.1 State how to recover and store surplus pellets/granules and how to dispose of waste material

AC6.2 Explain how to clean and decontaminate the applicator

AC6.3 Describe the storage requirements for the applicator

Topic 6.1

Surplus pesticide pellets/granules

- careful return to packaging
- return to temporary mobile store
- return to fixed store

Packaging:

- thoroughly emptied
- placed in secure storage until disposal
- collected by licensed waste disposal contractor

Topic 6.2

May include:

- select and use correct PPE
- selection of an appropriate site for cleaning the applicator
- clean the applicator following product information and manufacturer's recommendations
- safe disposal of contaminated waste in an appropriate manner following good practice
- safe procedures followed

Topic 6.3

May include:

- ensure the applicator is clean
- inspect for wear or damage
- replace any worn or damaged parts
- lubricate if required
- store in a secure area
- store under cover and out of direct sunlight

Unit 153

Operating pedestrian hand held applicators to apply pesticide pellets or granules to land

Supporting information

Evidence requirements

Assessment carried out by oral questioning and practical observation.

Unit guidance

Candidates must successfully achieve all assessment activities in their chosen unit(s).

Safe Practice

The Assessor and Candidate must wear Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) when appropriate.

The Assessor must ensure that a Site Specific Risk Assessment is carried out.

All equipment must be operated in such a way that the Candidate, Assessor, other persons and the environment are not endangered. Failure to operate safely and comply with these requirements will result in the Candidate not meeting the required standard.

A breach of Health and Safety that puts any person at risk during the assessment process will result in the assessment being terminated and the Candidate not meeting the required standard. The Assessor may stop the assessment on the grounds of safety at any time at their discretion.

Candidates who undertake this assessment and have met the requirements are reminded of their legal obligation to receive/undertake appropriate additional training in the use of any equipment that differs from that used during the assessment, but which they are nevertheless qualified to use.

Suggested learning resources

Code of Practice for Using Plant Protection Products.

This is available from www.hse.gov.uk

Unit 154

Operating pedestrian hand held applicators to apply pesticide pellets or granules to or near water

Level:	2
GLH:	28
Assessment type:	Practical Observation with Oral Questioning
Aim:	The aim of this unit is for the candidate to safely operate hand held applicators in order to apply pesticide pellets or granules to or near water..

Learning outcome

The learner will:

LO1 Know the legislative and safety regulations relating to applicator use (**Criteria 1.1 – 1.2**)

Assessment criteria

The learner can:

AC1.1 Describe the legal requirements relating to applying pesticide pellets/granules to or near water using pedestrian hand held applicators

AC1.2 Describe how to apply pesticide pellets/granules to or near water using pedestrian hand held applicators following industry best practice

Topic 1.1

May include:

- all required guards are in place and equipment complies with legal requirements
- comply with The Plant Protection Products (Sustainable Use) Regulations 2012
- the operator must hold the appropriate certification for the equipment they are using

Both required:

- ensure the pesticide has aquatic approval
- seek Environmental Agency approval

Topic 1.2

May include:

- comply with Pesticide Codes of Practice
- adopt industry best practice
- be aware of any safety implications imposed by Risk/COSHH Assessment and comply with the requirements

Overall treatment includes:

- consistent walking speed
- accurate switching on/off points
- matching of bouts
- avoidance of off target application

Spot treatment includes:

- maintaining a suitable applicator height
- avoidance of under/over dosing
- avoidance of off target application

The term on or near water may include the following:

- wet or dry ditches
- drainage channels
- streams
- rivers
- canals
- ponds
- lakes/lochs
- reservoirs
- and areas immediately adjacent

Operator safety considerations

- check bank stability before applying
- availability of a second person on site
- availability of life ring/rescue devices

Learning outcome

The learner will:

LO2 Be able to assess the environmental factors relating to the application site (**Criteria 2.1 – 2.2**)

Assessment criteria

The learner can:

AC2.1 Identify risks to the aquatic environment

AC2.2 Explain how to minimise risks to the environment

Topic 2.1

May include the following:

- ground conditions
- wildlife
- non-target plants
- environmental margins/strips/areas
- hedgerows
- housing
- public access
- sensitive crops/areas
- water courses
- boreholes
- livestock drinking points
- recreational use of water body/course
- water extraction points
- de-oxygenation of water
- removal of fish cover
- removal of bankside wildlife habitat
- removal of bankside vegetation leading to bank erosion
- other risks specific to the site

Topic 2.2

Explanation may include the following points:

- work in an upstream direction
- check weather suitability before treatment
- check downstream uses before treatment
- seek Environmental Agency approval
- use of an appropriate pesticide (minimal environmental impact)
- appropriate timing of treatment
- check and maintain application rate
- avoid off-target application
- exclude livestock
- erect warning signs
- inform neighbours

Reasons for minimising off target application:

- avoidance of contamination to people and the environment

Check and comment on wind speed:

- use of an anemometer at suitable height or visual signs
- wind direction

Factors that affect uniformity of spread:

- weather conditions
- direction of spreading
- pellet/granule density and size
- applicator height
- applicator set level
- defective equipment

Learning outcome

The learner will:

LO3 Be able to read and interpret product information (**Criteria 3.1 – 3.2**)

Assessment criteria

The learner can:

AC3.1 Read product information

AC3.2 Interpret product information

Topic 3.1 and 3.2

Important information:

- field of use (aquatic approval)
- target
- maximum individual dose
- maximum total dose
- maximum number of treatments

May include the following:

- specific product precautions/warnings
- operator protection
- environmental protection
- restrictions on use

Crop specific information:

- target
- dose rate
- timing
- additional label information

Learning outcome

The learner will:

LO4 Be able to prepare and calibrate a hand held pedestrian applicator (**Criteria 4.1 – 4.6**)

Assessment criteria

The learner can:

AC4.1 Carry out pre use checks to the applicator

AC4.2 Identify settings and adjustments

AC4.3 Calibrate the applicator and record relevant data

AC4.4 Measure the area to be treated

AC4.5 Calculate the area to be treated

AC4.6 Calculate the quantities of pesticide required

Topic 4.1

Applicator components to be inspected for service ability and contamination that may include:

- hopper
- lid
- agitator
- metering device
- spinning disc condition
- on/off control
- straps or harness (if applicable)
- wheels and tyres (if applicable)

Topic 4.2

May include:

- height adjustment
- spread width adjustment
- disc speed adjustment
- metering device

Topic 4.3

Calibration may include:

- measure spread width
- calculate application rate
- check rate against product information recommendations

Calibration data may include:

- walking speed
- applicator used
- height setting
- spread width
- metering device setting
- pellet/granule used

Topic 4.4

To include:

- accurate measurement of dimensions

Topic 4.5

To include:

- accurate calculation of area

Topic 4.6

To include:

- amount of pesticide required for specified area

Learning outcome

The learner will:

LO5 Be able to operate the applicator (**Criteria 5.1 – 5.4**)

Assessment criteria

The learner can:

AC5.1 Measure/weigh the required quantities and add to the applicator

AC5.2 Demonstrate safe and accurate application procedures

AC5.3 Carry out all activities protecting human health and the environment

AC5.4 Complete a treatment record

Topic 5.1

To include all of the following:

- correct selection and use of PPE/RPE (as required by the product label, COSHH and Risk Assessment)
- suitable site selected
- add product following product recommendations and approved procedures
- accurate measurement of pesticide product
- avoidance of spillage

Topic 5.2

To include:

- bankside safety implemented
- treatment area clearly identified
- walking speed maintained
- accurate switching on/off points
- accurate matching of bouts
- obstacles dealt with correctly (if applicable)
- area treated minimising overlaps and misses
- awareness of changing weather conditions and appropriate action taken (if applicable)
- avoidance of off target application/contamination

Topic 5.3

To include:

- prevention of personal injury and contamination through correct selection and use of PPE/RPE (as required by the product information, COSHH/Risk Assessment)
- prevention of public/bystander contamination
- safe filling procedure
- avoidance of off target application
- avoidance of overdosing/under dosing target
- minimising the impact on the aquatic environment

Topic 5.4

Completion of the treatment record must be:

- accurate
- legible (if handwritten)

Learning outcome

The learner will:

LO6 Know how to carry out post-operational procedures (**Criteria 6.1 – 6.3**)

Assessment criteria

The learner can:

AC6.1 State how to recover and store surplus pellets/granules and how to dispose of waste material

AC6.2 Explain how to clean and decontaminate the applicator

AC6.3 Describe the storage requirements for the applicator

Topic 6.1

Surplus pesticide pellets/granules:

- careful return to packaging
- return to temporary mobile store
- return to fixed store

Packaging:

- thoroughly emptied
- placed in secure storage until disposal
- collected by a licensed waste disposal contractor

Topic 6.2

May include:

- select and use correct PPE/RPE
- selection of an appropriate site for cleaning the applicator
- clean the applicator following product information and manufacturer recommendations
- safe disposal of contaminated waste in an appropriate manner following good practice
- safe procedures followed

Topic 6.3

- ensure the applicator is clean
- inspect for wear or damage
- repair or notify supervisor if not within operators level of responsibility and ability
- lubricate if required
- store in a secure area
- store under cover and out of direct sunlight

Unit 154

Operating pedestrian hand held applicators to apply pesticide pellets or granules to or near water

Supporting information

Evidence requirements

Assessment carried out by oral questioning and practical observation.

Unit guidance

Candidates must successfully achieve all assessment activities in their chosen unit(s).

Safe Practice

The Assessor and Candidate must wear Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) when appropriate.

The Assessor must ensure that a Site Specific Risk Assessment is carried out.

All equipment must be operated in such a way that the Candidate, Assessor, other persons and the environment are not endangered. Failure to operate safely and comply with these requirements will result in the Candidate not meeting the required standard.

A breach of Health and Safety that puts any person at risk during the assessment process will result in the assessment being terminated and the Candidate not meeting the required standard. The Assessor may stop the assessment on the grounds of safety at any time at their discretion.

Candidates who undertake this assessment and have met the requirements are reminded of their legal obligation to receive/undertake appropriate additional training in the use of any equipment that differs from that used during the assessment, but which they are nevertheless qualified to use.

Suggested learning resources

Code of Practice for Using Plant Protection Products.

This is available from www.hse.gov.uk

Unit 155

Installing pesticide plugs in tree stumps

Level:	2
GLH:	28
Assessment type:	Practical Observation with Oral Questioning
Aim:	The aim of this unit is for the candidate to be able to insert pesticide plugs into the stumps of trees.

Learning outcome

The learner will:

LO1 Know the legislative and safety regulations relating to pesticide plug installation
(Criteria 1.1 – 1.2)

Assessment criteria

The learner can:

AC1.1 Describe the legal requirements relating to installing pesticide plugs
AC1.2 Describe how to install pesticide plugs safely following industry best practice

Topic 1.1

May include:

- all required guards are in place and equipment complies with legal requirements
- comply with The Plant Protection Products (Sustainable Use) Regulations 2012
- the operator must hold the appropriate certification for the equipment they are using

Both required:

- ensure the pesticide has aquatic approval
- seek environmental agency approval

Topic 1.2

May include;

- comply with Pesticide Codes of Practice
- adopt industry best practice
- be aware of any safety implications imposed by Risk/COSHH Assessment and comply with the requirements

The term on or near water may include the following:

- wet or dry ditches
- drainage channels
- streams
- rivers
- canals
- ponds
- lakes/lochs
- reservoirs
- and areas immediately adjacent

On or near water safety considerations

- check bank stability before applying
- availability of a second person on site
- availability of life ring/rescue devices

Learning outcome

The learner will:

LO2 Be able to assess the environmental factors relating to the installation site (**Criteria 2.1 – 2.2**)

Assessment criteria

The learner can:

AC2.1 Identify risks to the environment from installing pesticide plugs

AC2.2 Explain how to minimize risks to the environment

Topic 2.1

May include:

- water courses
- Tree Preservation Orders
- conservation areas
- wildlife
- non-target species
- leaving hazardous standing dead wood
- housing
- public access

Risks to aquatic environment:

- livestock drinking points
- recreational use of water body/course
- water extraction points
- de-oxygenation of water
- removal of fish cover
- removal of bankside wildlife habitat
- removal of bankside vegetation leading to bank erosion
- other risks specific to the site

Topic 2.2

May include:

- permission sought from appropriate regulatory body (if required)
- use an appropriate pesticide
- careful timing of application
- check and maintain application rate
- work in an upstream direction
- check weather suitability before treatment
- check downstream uses before treatment
- seek environmental agency approval
- exclude livestock

Learning outcome

The learner will:

LO3 Be able to read and interpret product information (**Criteria 3.1 – 3.2**)

Assessment criteria

The learner can:

AC3.1 Read product information

AC3.2 Interpret product information

Topic 3.1 and 3.2

The following to be tested:

- product name
- active substance(s) (ingredient(s))

Important information:

- field of use
- crop/situation
- maximum individual dose
- maximum total dose

May include the following:

- specific product precautions/warnings
- operator protection
- environmental protection
- restrictions on use

Crop specific information:

- target
- dose rate
- timing
- additional label information

Learning outcome

The learner will:

LO4 Be able to prepare pesticide plug application equipment and calculate numbers of plugs required (**Criteria 4.1 –4.3**)

Assessment criteria

The learner can:

AC4.1 Carry out pre use checks to the application equipment

AC4.2 Measure the diameter of the tree or stump to be treated

AC4.3 Calculate the number of plugs required

Topic 4.1

May include:

- all required guards are in place and in good condition as stated in the operators manual (if applicable)
- battery sufficiently charged (if applicable)
- adequate fuel (if applicable)
- air filter clean and in good condition (if applicable)
- cooling fins clean/vents clean and clear (if applicable)
- drill bit securely fitted in chuck
- depth gauge secure and set correctly
- hammer head securely fitted to shaft (if applicable)
- any other checks specific to the equipment used

Topic 4.2

To include:

- accurate measurement
- accurate calculation (if required)

Topic 4.3

To include:

- accurate calculations

Learning outcome

The learner will:

LO5 Be able to install pesticide plugs (**Criteria 5.1 – 5.3**)

Assessment criteria

The learner can:

AC5.1 Demonstrate safe and accurate installation procedures

AC5.2 Carry out all activities protecting human health and the environment

AC5.3 Complete a treatment record

Topic 5.1

To include:

- correct selection and use of PPE (as required by the product label, COSHH/Risk Assessment)
- plugs installed at correct spacing
- plugs installed in to the correct part of the stump/tree
- plugs installed to the correct depth

Topic 5.2

To include:

- prevention of personal injury and contamination through correct selection and use of PPE (as required by the product information, COSHH/Risk Assessment)
- prevention of public/bystander contamination
- safe installation procedure
- avoidance of non-target species application
- avoidance of over dosing/under dosing

Topic 5.3

Completion of the treatment record must be:

- accurate
- legible (if handwritten)

Learning outcome

The learner will:

LO6 Know how to carry out post-operational procedures (**Criteria 6.1 – 6.3**)

Assessment criteria

The learner can:

AC6.1 State how to deal with unused pesticide plugs and packaging

AC6.2 State how to clean application equipment

AC6.3 State how to store application equipment

Topic 6.1

Explanation may include:

- careful return to packaging

- return to temporary mobile store
- return to fixed store
- packaging thoroughly emptied
- placed in secure storage until disposal
- collected by licence waste disposal contractor

Topic 6.2

May include:

- select and use correct PPE
- selection of an appropriate site for cleaning the applicator
- clean the applicator following product information and manufacturer's recommendations
- safe disposal of contaminated waste in an appropriate manner following good practice
- safe procedures followed

Topic 6.3

May include:

- ensure the applicator is clean
- inspect for wear or damage
- replace any worn or damaged parts
- lubricate if required
- store in a secure area

Unit 155

Installing pesticide plugs in tree stumps Installing Pesticide plugs in tree stumps

Supporting information

Evidence requirements

Assessment carried out by oral questioning and practical observation.

Unit guidance

Candidates must successfully achieve all assessment activities in their chosen unit(s).

Safe Practice

The Assessor and Candidate must wear Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) when appropriate.

The Assessor must ensure that a Site Specific Risk Assessment is carried out.

All equipment must be operated in such a way that the Candidate, Assessor, other persons and the environment are not endangered. Failure to operate safely and comply with these requirements will result in the Candidate not meeting the required standard.

A breach of Health and Safety that puts any person at risk during the assessment process will result in the assessment being terminated and the Candidate not meeting the required standard. The Assessor may stop the assessment on the grounds of safety at any time at their discretion.

Candidates who undertake this assessment and have met the requirements are reminded of their legal obligation to receive/undertake appropriate additional training in the use of any equipment that differs from that used during the assessment, but which they are nevertheless qualified to use.

Suggested learning resources

Code of Practice for Using Plant Protection Products.

This is available from www.hse.gov.uk

Unit 156

Operating hand held pesticide injection equipment

Level:	2
GLH:	28
Assessment type:	Practical Observation with Oral Questioning
Aim:	The aim of this unit is for the candidate to safely operate hand held pesticide injection equipment.

Learning outcome

The learner will:

LO1 Know the legislative and safety regulations relating to pesticide injection equipment
(Criteria 1.1 – 1.2)

Assessment criteria

The learner can:

AC1.1 Describe the legal requirements relating to applying pesticides using injection equipment

AC1.2 Describe how to inject pesticides safely following industry best practice

Topic 1.1

May include:

- comply with The Plant Protection Products (Sustainable Use) Regulations 2012
- the operator must hold the appropriate certification for the equipment they are using

Both required:

- ensure the pesticide has aquatic approval
- seek environmental agency approval

Topic 1.2

May include:

- comply with Pesticide Codes of Practice
- adopt industry best practice

- be aware of any safety implications imposed by Risk/COSHH Assessment and comply with the requirements

Injecting the target:

- injection site on plant/target
- growth stage
- time of year
- marking system to avoid misses/overdosing

The term on or near water may include the following:

- wet or dry ditches
- drainage channels
- streams
- rivers
- canals
- ponds
- lakes/lochs
- reservoirs
- and areas immediately adjacent

On or near water operator safety considerations:

- check bank stability before applying
- availability of a second person on site
- availability of life ring/rescue devices

Learning outcome

The learner will:

LO2 Be able to assess the environmental factors relating to the site (**Criteria 2.1 – 2.2**)

Assessment criteria

The learner can:

AC2.1 Identify risks to the environment

AC2.2 Explain how to minimise risks to the environment

Topic 2.1

May include the following:

- water courses
- drains
- boreholes
- environmental margins/strips/areas
- wildlife
- non-target plants
- conservation areas
- leaving hazardous standing dead wood
- sensitive crops/areas
- hedgerows
- housing
- public access

Risks to aquatic environment

- livestock drinking points

- recreational use of water body/course
- water extraction points
- de-oxygenation of water
- removal of fish cover
- removal of bankside wildlife habitat
- removal of bankside vegetation leading to bank erosion
- other risks particular to the site

Topic 2.2

May include:

- suitable mixing/filling site chosen
- permission sought from appropriate regulatory body (if required)
- use an appropriate pesticide (minimal environmental impact)
- careful timing of application
- check and maintain application rate
- erect warning signs
- notify neighbours before application
- work in an upstream direction
- check weather suitability before treatment
- check downstream uses before treatment
- seek environmental agency approval
- exclude livestock

Learning outcome

The learner will:

LO3 Be able to read and interpret product information (**Criteria 3.1 – 3.2**)

Assessment criteria

The learner can:

AC3.1 Read product information

AC3.2 Interpret product information

Topic 3.1 and 3.2

The following to be tested:

- product name
- active substance(s) (ingredient(s))

Important information:

- field of use
- target
- maximum individual dose
- maximum total dose

May include the following:

- specific product precautions/warnings
- operator protection
- environmental protection
- restrictions on use

Crop specific information:

- target
- dose rate
- dilution rate if applicable
- timing

Mixing and spraying:

- filling
- additional label information

Learning outcome

The learner will:

LO4 Be able to prepare and calibrate the pesticide injection equipment (**Criteria 4.1 – 4.4**)

Assessment criteria

The learner can:

AC4.1 Identify and select equipment according to application requirements

AC4.2 Carry out pre use checks to the applicator

AC4.3 Calibrate the applicator

AC4.4 Calculate quantities required

Topic 4.1

May include:

- long needle for initial treatment or thicker stems
- short needle for repeat treatment or thinner stems

Topic 4.2

Applicator components to be inspected for serviceability and contamination that may include:

- tank/bottle/container
- lid
- filters
- hoses
- connections
- seals
- on/off control
- straps

To include:

- applicator checked for leaks
- any problems identified to be rectified if within operators level of responsibility and ability
- condition confirmed as suitable for operation

Fit the required needle for use:

- suitable needle selected
- needle fitted correctly
- needle undamaged

Topic 4.3

Calibration to include:

- delivery rate checked against applicator setting and required volume

Calibration data may include:

- applicator used
- needle fitted
- applicator setting
- pesticide used

Topic 4.4

May include:

- amount of water required for specified targets
- amount of pesticide required for specified targets
- amount of pesticide required for full tank/bottle/container

Learning outcome

The learner will:

LO5 Be able to inject pesticide (**Criteria 5.1 – 5.4**)

Assessment criteria

The learner can:

AC5.1 Measure the pesticide, mix with water and fill the applicator and/or attach pesticide container

AC5.2 Demonstrate safe and accurate injection procedures

AC5.3 Carry out all activities protecting human health and the environment

AC5.4 Complete a treatment record

Topic 5.1

To include all of the following;

- correct selection and use of PPE (as required by the product information and/or COSHH Assessment)
- suitable site selected
- observance of pesticide manufacturers instructions for mixing
- correct use of water supply
- accurate measurement of water
- accurate measurement of pesticide
- avoidance of spillage

and/or

- attach pesticide container

Topic 5.2

To include:

- targets clearly identified
- targets treated avoiding misses and overdosing

- awareness of changing weather conditions and appropriate action taken (if applicable)

Topic 5.3

To include:

- prevention of personal injury and contamination through correct selection and use of PPE (as required by the product information, COSHH/ Risk Assessment)
- prevention of public/bystander contamination
- safe filling procedure
- avoidance of off target application/contamination
- avoidance of over dosing/under dosing target/plant material

Topic 5.4

Completion of the treatment record must be:

- accurate
- legible (if handwritten)

Learning outcome

The learner will:

LO6 Know how to carry out post-operational procedures (**Criteria 6.1 – 6.3**)

Assessment criteria

The learner can:

AC6.1 Explain how to manage surplus pesticide and dispose of waste material

AC6.2 Explain how to clean the injection equipment

AC6.3 Explain how to store the injection equipment

Topic 6.1

Surplus concentrate pesticide:

- return to temporary mobile store
- return to fixed store

Containers:

- triple rinsed if applicable
- placed in secure storage until disposal
- returned to supplier
- collected by a licensed waste disposal contractor
- packaging thoroughly emptied
- placed in secure storage until disposal

Surplus dilute pesticides

- use on another approved target
- treated by specialist treatment facility on site (e.g. a lined bio bed)
- collected by a licensed waste disposal contractor

Topic 6.2

May include:

- select and use correct PPE
- selection of an appropriate site for cleaning the applicator
- triple rinse the applicator following product information recommendations
- thorough flushing of system
- safe disposal of contaminated washings in an appropriate manner following good practice
- safe procedures followed

Topic 6.3

May include:

- ensure the injection equipment is clean and dry
- inspect for wear or damage
- repair or notify supervisor if not within operators level of responsibility and ability
- lubricate if required
- needle covered/removed to protect operator
- store in a secure area
- store under cover and out of direct sunlight

Supporting information

Evidence requirements

Assessment carried out by oral questioning and practical observation.

Unit guidance

Candidates must successfully achieve all assessment activities in their chosen unit(s).

Safe Practice

The Assessor and Candidate must wear Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) when appropriate.

The Assessor must ensure that a Site Specific Risk Assessment is carried out.

All equipment must be operated in such a way that the Candidate, Assessor, other persons and the environment are not endangered. Failure to operate safely and comply with these requirements will result in the Candidate not meeting the required standard.

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Candidates who undertake this assessment and have met the requirements are reminded of their legal obligation to receive/undertake appropriate additional training in the use of any equipment that differs from that used during the assessment, but which they are nevertheless qualified to use.

Suggested learning resources

Code of Practice for Using Plant Protection Products.

This is available from www.hse.gov.uk

Unit 157

Operating hand held applicators requiring minimal calibration

Level:	2
GLH:	28
Assessment type:	Practical Observation with Oral Questioning
Aim:	The aim of this unit is for the candidate to safely operate hand held pesticide applicators that need minimal calibration.

Learning outcome

The learner will:

LO1 Know the legislative and safety regulations relating to applicator use (**Criteria 1.1 – 1.2**)

Assessment criteria

The learner can:

AC1.1 Describe the legal requirements relating to applying pesticides using hand held equipment

AC1,2 Describe how to apply pesticides safely using hand held equipment following industry best practice

Topic 1.1

May include:

- comply with The Plant Protection Products
- (Sustainable Use) Regulations 2012
- the operator must hold the appropriate certification for the equipment they are using

Both required:

- ensure the pesticide has aquatic approval
- seek environmental agency approval

Topic 1.2

May include;

- comply with Pesticide Codes of Practice
- adopt industry best practice
- be aware of any safety implications imposed by Risk/COSHH Assessment and comply with the requirements

Overall treatment includes:

- consistent walking speed
- regular pumping to maintain constant pressure
- consistent nozzle height
- accurate on/off points
- matching of bouts
- avoidance of off target application

Spot treatment includes:

- use of a suitable nozzle
- maintaining a suitable height
- timed treatment
- avoidance of under/over dosing
- avoidance of off target application

The term on or near water may include the following:

- wet or dry ditches
- drainage channels
- streams
- rivers
- canals
- ponds
- lakes/lochs
- reservoirs
- and areas immediately adjacent

On or near water operator safety considerations:

- check bank stability before applying
- availability of a second person on site
- availability of life ring/rescue devices

Learning outcome

The learner will:

LO2 Be able to assess the environmental factors relating to the site (**Criteria 2.1 – 2.2**)

Assessment criteria

The learner can:

AC2.1 Identify risks to the environment

AC2.2 Explain how to minimize risks to the environment

Topic 2.1

May include the following:

- ground conditions
- water courses
- drains
- boreholes
- environmental margins/strips/areas
- wildlife
- non-targets
- sensitive crops/areas
- hedgerows
- housing
- public access

Risks to the aquatic environment

- livestock drinking points
- recreational use of water body/course
- water extraction points
- de-oxygenation of water
- removal of fish cover
- removal of bankside wildlife habitat
- removal of bankside vegetation leading to bank erosion
- other risks specific to the site

Topic 2.2

Explanation to include the following points:

- use of an appropriate pesticide (minimal environmental impact)
- careful timing of application
- check and maintain application rate
- avoid spray drift
- avoid off target application
- observe buffer zones
- erect warning signs
- notify neighbours before application
- work in an upstream direction
- check weather suitability before treatment
- check downstream uses before treatment
- seek environmental agency approval
- exclude livestock

Check and comment on wind speed:

- use of anemometer at suitable height or visible signs
- wind direction

Reasons for minimising spray drift:

- avoidance of contamination to people and the environment

Factors that affect spray drift:

- weather conditions
- direction of spraying
- nozzle type and size (if applicable)
- pressure (if applicable)
- disc type
- disc speed

- nozzle/disc height
- forward speed
- defective equipment

Factors affecting off target application

- wick too low
- wick over saturated and dripping

Learning outcome

The learner will:

LO3 Be able to read and interpret product information (**Criteria 3.1 – 3.2**)

Assessment criteria

The learner can:

AC3.1 Read product information

AC3,2 Interpret product information

Topic 3.1 and 3.2

To include the following:

- product name
- active substance(s) (ingredient(s))

Important information:

- field of use
- crop/target
- maximum individual dose
- maximum total dose
- maximum number of treatments

May include the following:

- specific product precautions/warnings
- operator protection
- environmental protection
- restrictions on use

Crop specific information:

- crop/target
- dose rate
- water volume
- timing

Mixing and spraying:

- filling
- recommended nozzles
- recommended pressure
- spray quality
- additional label information
- compatibility

Learning outcome

The learner will:

LO4 Be able to prepare and calibrate a hand held applicator (**Criteria 4.1 – 4.5**)

Assessment criteria

The learner can:

AC4.1 Carry out pre use checks to the applicator

AC4.2 Identify any controls or components applicable to the applicator

AC4.3 Calibrate the applicator and record relevant data

AC4.4 Measure and calculate the area/target to be treated

AC4.5 Calculate the quantities of pesticide and water required, if applicable

Topic 4.1

May include:

- sprayer/applicator de-pressurised

Sprayer/applicator components to be inspected for serviceability and contamination that may include:

- tank/container
- wick
- lid
- filters
- hoses
- connections
- seals
- on/off control
- lance
- straps
- bristles
- pump (if accessible)
- batteries (if applicable)
- engine (if applicable)

Part fill applicator and check for satisfactory operation:

- applicator checked for leaks under pressure
- any problems identified to be rectified if within operators level of responsibility and ability
- condition confirmed as suitable for operation

Topic 4.2

May include:

- tank
- pump
- on/off
- filters
- nozzle(s)/disc(s)/distribution system
- other components/controls specific to the applicator

Topic 4.3

Calibration may include:

- calculation of water volume rate
- check water volume rate against product information recommendations
- flow rate adjusted to distribution system

Calibration data may include:

- applicator used
- walking speed
- nozzle(s) fitted (swath width if appropriate)
- disc(s) fitted (swath width if appropriate)
- pressure setting
- wick priming time

Topic 4.4

To include:

- accurate calculation of area/target

Topic 4.5

To include if applicable:

- amount of water required for specified area
- amount of pesticide required for specified area
- amount of pesticide required for full tank/container

Learning outcome

The learner will:

LO5 Be able to operate the application equipment (**Criteria 5.1 – 5.4**)

Assessment criteria

The learner can:

AC5.1 Measure the required quantities and add to the applicator, or attach pesticide container

AC5.2 Demonstrate safe and accurate application procedures

AC5.3 Carry out all activities protecting human health and the environment

AC5.4 Complete a treatment record

Topic 5.1

To include all of the following:

- correct selection and use of PPE(as required by the product label, COSHH/Risk Assessment)
- suitable site selected
- observance of pesticide manufacturers instructions for mixing
- correct use of water supply
- accurate measurement of water
- accurate measurement of pesticide

- avoidance of spillage
or
- attach pesticide container

Topic 5.2

May include:

- treatment area/target clearly identified
- walking speed maintained
- accurate switch on/off points
- accurate matching of bouts
- obstacles dealt with correctly (if applicable)
- walking direction
- area treated minimising overlaps and misses
- awareness of changing weather conditions and appropriate action taken (if applicable)

Topic 5.3

To include:

- prevention of personal injury and contamination through correct selection and use of PPE (as required by the product information, COSHH/Risk Assessment)
- prevention of public/bystander contamination
- safe filling procedure
- avoidance of off target application
- avoidance of over dosing/under dosing crop/target/plant material

Topic 5.4

Completion of the treatment record must be:

- accurate
- legible (if handwritten)

Learning outcome

The learner will:

LO6 Know how to carry out post-operational procedures (**Criteria 6.1 – 6.3**)

Assessment criteria

The learner can:

AC6.1 Explain how to manage surplus pesticide and dispose of waste material

AC6.2 Explain how to clean and decontaminate the applicator

AC6.3 Describe the storage requirements for the applicator

Topic 6.1

Surplus concentrate pesticide:

- return to temporary mobile store
- return to fixed store

Containers:

- triple rinsed
- placed in secure storage until disposal
- returned to supplier
- collected by licensed waste contractor

Packaging:

- thoroughly emptied
- placed in secure storage until disposal
- collected by licensed waste disposal contractor

Surplus dilute pesticide:

- back on to area/target as long as it is below the maximum dose rate
- use on another approved area/target
- treated by specialist treatment facility on site (e.g. a lined bio bed)
- collected by a licensed waste disposal contractor

Topic 6.2

May include:

- select and use correct PPE
- selection of an appropriate site for cleaning the applicator
- triple rinse the applicator following product information recommendations
- through flushing of system
- safe disposal of contaminated washings in an appropriate manner following good practice
- safe procedures followed

Topic 6.3

May include:

- de-pressurisation
- ensure the sprayer/applicator is clean and dry
- inspect for wear or damage
- replace any worn or damaged parts
- lubricate if required
- frost protection measures implemented
- store securely
- store under cover and out of direct sunlight

Unit 157

Operating hand held applicators requiring minimal calibration

Supporting information

Evidence requirements

Assessment carried out by oral questioning and practical observation.

Unit guidance

Candidates must successfully achieve all assessment activities in their chosen unit(s).

Safe Practice

The Assessor and Candidate must wear Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) when appropriate.

The Assessor must ensure that a Site Specific Risk Assessment is carried out.

All equipment must be operated in such a way that the Candidate, Assessor, other persons and the environment are not endangered. Failure to operate safely and comply with these requirements will result in the Candidate not meeting the required standard.

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Suggested learning resources

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This is available from www.hse.gov.uk

Appendix 1 Sources of general information

The following documents contain essential information for centres delivering City & Guilds qualifications. They should be referred to in conjunction with this handbook. To download the documents and to find other useful documents, go to the [Centre document library](#) on www.cityandguilds.com or click on the links below:

Centre Handbook: Quality Assurance Standards

This document is for all approved centres and provides guidance to support their delivery of our qualifications. It includes information on:

- centre quality assurance criteria and monitoring activities
- administration and assessment systems
- centre-facing support teams at City & Guilds/ILM
- centre quality assurance roles and responsibilities.

The Centre Handbook should be used to ensure compliance with the terms and conditions of the centre contract.

Centre Handbook: Quality Assurance Standards

This document sets out the minimum common quality assurance requirements for our regulated and non-regulated qualifications that feature centre-assessed components. Specific guidance will also be included in relevant qualification handbooks and/or assessment documentation.

It incorporates our expectations for centre internal quality assurance and the external quality assurance methods we use to ensure that assessment standards are met and upheld. It also details the range of sanctions that may be put in place when centres do not comply with our requirements or actions that will be taken to align centre marking/assessment to required standards. Additionally, it provides detailed guidance on the secure and valid administration of centre assessments.

Access arrangements: When and how applications need to be made to City & Guilds provides full details of the arrangements that may be made to facilitate access to assessments and qualifications for candidates who are eligible for adjustments in assessment.

The **Centre document library** also contains useful information on such things as:

- conducting examinations
- registering learners
- appeals and malpractice.

Useful contacts

Please visit the Contact us section of the City & Guilds website, **Contact us**.

City & Guilds

For over 140 years, we have worked with people, organisations and economies to help them identify and develop the skills they need to thrive. We understand the life-changing link between skills development, social mobility, prosperity and success. Everything we do is focused on developing and delivering high-quality training, qualifications, assessments and credentials that lead to jobs and meet the changing needs of industry.

We partner with our customers to deliver work-based learning programmes that build competency to support better prospects for people, organisations and wider society. We create flexible learning pathways that support lifelong employability because we believe that people deserve the opportunity to (re)train and (re)learn again and again – gaining new skills at every stage of life, regardless of where they start.

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