

# Stockperson (Beef, Pigs, Sheep, Dairy)

## Level 2



### Overview of the role

Raising animals with optimal welfare and consideration for their needs throughout the different stages of their life.

With over 150,000 businesses, the agriculture industry offers exciting and varied careers in the UK and abroad. The industry provides unique opportunities for young people to work in a technically advanced and innovative environment, producing one of the country's most important products – food which accounts for 14% of the British GDP. Businesses within the industry range from small family farms through to large integrated organisations working across the food supply chain. The key role for a stockperson is to raise the animals with optimal welfare and consideration for their needs throughout the different stages of their life. This is practical work involving a combination of technology and manual labour. Being a stockperson requires compassion, self-motivation and the ability to work in a team and independently.

A stockperson will be responsible for their own work, but will have supervision. As animal welfare is a priority on farm, key to being a good stockperson is understanding your limits and knowing when to ask for help. Working with live animals presents a range of challenges to overcome and ensures no two days will be the same. This standard follows a 'core and options' approach. The core covers the generic requirements for looking after animals competently and the sector options provide more specific needs for different livestock. One option will be taken in addition to the core skills to complete this apprenticeship, which provides a solid foundation for a range of progression opportunities within the industry.

### Entry Requirements

Individual employers will set their own selection criteria.

Apprentices should have Level 1 Maths and English equivalent to GCSE Grade 2 (old GCSE Grade E) or above, plus suitable and relevant employment. Apprentices will be expected to work towards Level 2 Maths and English where this has not been achieved.

### Duration

The duration of the apprenticeship is based on a skills analysis and development opportunities within the business. The typical duration for this apprenticeship is 18-24 months, however this would be reduced where an apprentice holds previous experience.

L2 Apprenticeship Stockperson Information



## Apprenticeship Content

	<b>Skills</b>
<b>Overarching</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote and maintain health, safety and security both personally and across the site including correct first aid responses</li> <li>Use appropriate technology to support your role</li> <li>Keep accurate records relevant to job role</li> <li>Prepare and operate machinery and other equipment for safe and efficient use</li> </ul>
<b>Health, biosecurity and welfare</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Implement and monitor site bio-security (including isolation) as per farm plan</li> <li>Prepare accommodation for incoming livestock including cleaning and disinfecting</li> <li>Monitor and maintain the health and welfare of livestock</li> <li>Administer treatments, where appropriate, as per farm health plan</li> </ul>
<b>Vehicle operation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Competently operate (to certified level) a relevant vehicle used in the business</li> </ul>
<b>Nutrition</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Feed stock according to instruction</li> <li>Assess the condition and behaviour of animals at feeding</li> <li>Provide water of sufficient quality and quantity</li> </ul>
<b>Handling and moving</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prepare livestock and facilities for transfer as appropriate</li> <li>Handle and restrain livestock in a safe and appropriate manner</li> <li>Move animals without causing undue stress</li> </ul>
<b>Breeding and replacement</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify signs of heat</li> <li>Monitor and maintain livestock during pregnancy</li> <li>Monitor and maintain the care of livestock during and after birth with assistance where appropriate</li> </ul>

**\*Additional skills for sector option:**

<b>Pigs</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify animals appropriately</li> <li>Store and use livestock semen appropriately</li> <li>Carry out Artificial insemination on livestock/supervise natural mating</li> <li>Administer relevant treatments to animals such as vaccination and euthanasia</li> <li>Assess/respond to ventilation needs</li> </ul>
<b>Dairy</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prepare livestock for and carry out milking</li> <li>Recognise mastitis and respond appropriately</li> <li>Assess lameness and respond appropriately</li> <li>Carry out calf disbudding</li> <li>Identify animals correctly (including tagging procedures)</li> </ul>
<b>Beef</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify animals correctly (including tagging procedures)</li> <li>Assess lameness and respond appropriately</li> <li>Carry out calf disbudding</li> </ul>
<b>Sheep</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prepare for shearing/wool handling</li> <li>Carry out crutching</li> <li>Identify animals correctly (including electronic identification device tagging procedures)</li> <li>Assess lameness and treat as appropriate</li> <li>Carry out tail docking and castration as appropriate</li> </ul>

 Apprenticeships



## Knowledge

- Health and safety legislation, and codes of practice in relation to the job role/workplace including contingency/emergency plans
- Practical health and safety information to ensure everyone is safe in the workplace
- Safe operation of a relevant farm vehicle
- Relevant animal welfare codes of practice, legislation and company policies
- Importance of relevant record keeping systems and storage
- Awareness of input costs, cost of production and margins
- Awareness of key performance indicators
- High standards of hygiene and biosecurity
- Signs of ill health and welfare issues and the action required to mitigate
- Safe use of veterinary medicines
- Breed differences and characteristics
- Environmental needs of the animals and the impact of any change
- Correct feed and water for relevant livestock and growth stage
- Production cycle of livestock
- Correct procedures for breeding, feeding, handling, selection, moving and transporting of livestock in a variety of circumstances
- Impact of stockpersons behaviour on livestock
- Security procedures for the unit
- Safe and effective maintenance of equipment
- Importance of good environmental practice
- Procedures for maintaining sufficient stocks
- How technology can assist business efficiency
- Customers' and assurance scheme requirements
- Supply chains in which they are working

## Behaviours

- Strong work ethic
- Adaptability
- Effective communicator
- Team working
- Safety awareness

## Qualifications

- Level 2 Awards in Emergency First Aid at Work and the Safe Use of Pesticides.

### **\*One of the following:**

- Boom sprayer, mounted, trailed or self-propelled equipment
- Granular applicator equipment
- Handheld applicator equipment

**\*As well as this, you will complete a qualification relevant to your place of work e.g. Forklift Truck or ATV.**

## Employer Involvement

Your employer must enable you to spend a minimum of 20% of your usual work hours undertaking off-job learning. This is defined as learning which is undertaken outside of the normal day-to-day working environment and leads towards the achievement of the apprenticeship. This can include training that is delivered at your normal place of work but must not be delivered as part of your normal working duties, and must be directly relevant to the apprenticeship standard.

Off-job learning could include the following:

- Teaching of theory such as lectures, role playing, simulation exercises, online learning or manufacturer training

 Apprenticeships



- Practical training such as shadowing experienced staff or mentoring, industry visits and attendance at competitions
- Study support and time spent writing assessments/assignments

Your employer must commit to supporting you in the workplace, participating in progress review meetings, providing use of ICT facilities so you can access your e-portfolio and agreeing/ensuring your readiness for the End Point Assessment. They may be required to provide further supporting evidence/endorsements about your performance, which form part of the End Point Assessment.

Further details of the End Point Assessment will be made available to you during your induction.

## **Funding**

The way Apprenticeships are funded has changed – employers now pay for apprenticeship training, where fees are applicable. We will discuss this with your employer when we complete a set-up with them.

The fees charged for the apprenticeship include any awarding body registration costs, all on-programme teaching, assessment and support delivered by the college, support materials, access to college facilities such as the Learning Resource Centre, Student Moodle, and access to wider college student support services where required.

Employers must pay apprentices at least the minimum rate set out by current National Minimum Wage Legislation. This includes payment for all off-job learning and any associated costs such as travel and accommodation.

Information about the National Minimum Wage can be found at:

<https://www.gov.uk/national-minimum-wage-rates>

## **College Input**

We will support you through regular Apprenticeship Progress Review meetings with you and your manager, provide well planned vocational training and theory delivery by block release model and support your theory learning in the workplace with a range of learning materials.

This programme is offered at the following campuses: York, Penrith, Thirsk, Hexam and Kendal.

## **How to Apply**

Applications should be made using the college application form or via the college website. This form can be found at: <https://www.askham-bryan.ac.uk/application/register>. Upon receipt of your application you will have an interview with the Course Manager.

## **Further information is available at:**

<https://www.instituteforapprenticeships.org/apprenticeship-standards/stockperson-beef-pigs-sheep-dairy/>

Or, for more information, contact the College Course Manager on:

### **York**

Alex Welch: **01904 772293**

[alex.welch@askham-bryan.ac.uk](mailto:alex.welch@askham-bryan.ac.uk)

### **Penrith**

Sarah Stobart: **07970 182427/01768 893728**

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