

Qualification title	Diploma in Companion Animal Training
Qualification level	4
Qualification number	601/4853/6
Qualification type	Intended as a Technical Level qualification

QUALIFICATION OVERVIEW	
<i>Who is this qualification for and what could it lead to?</i>	The Diploma in Companion Animal Training provides a theoretical and practical understanding of companion animal training and behaviour and is suitable for those working in the animal care sector, with responsibility for planning and managing humane approaches to addressing inappropriate behaviour of animals.
<i>Are there any entry requirements?</i>	<p>Students must possess one of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approved Level 3 qualification in Veterinary Nursing • Veterinary science, medicine or nursing degree <p>Students without one of these qualifications will require the Centre to apply to CQ for approval. Evidence, testimonials and existing qualifications will be required to support the application. CQ will judge each application on an individual basis and its decision is final.</p>
<i>What are the key purposes of the qualification?</i>	On completion students will understand how to evaluate, prevent or address inappropriate or problematic behaviours within individual animals. This will be possible through the development of an understanding of the suitable environments and management and treatment regimes that are likely to be effective, based on best practice and scientific evidence. This understanding may be applied for training, rehabilitation or prevention purposes, when caring for the animal or when assisting and advising another person or organisation on undesirable behaviour in their animal/s.
<i>What does this qualification cover?</i>	<p>This qualification relates to the clinical application of the science of animal behaviour. It includes the modification of the behaviour of animals that are demonstrating all types of undesirable, inappropriate, problematic or dangerous behaviour, including those with a potential link to pathologies that require diagnosis in collaboration with a Veterinary Surgeon.</p> <p>It will address appropriate interactions with animals, their owners and outside organisations within the constraints of the Veterinary Surgeons Act (1966) and will be taught in the context of companion animals which could include: cats, dogs, small mammals, equids and exotic species.</p> <p>The programme will include a balance of practical learning and theoretical teaching and use a variety of strategies to ensure students can undertake the role of a companion animal trainer and behaviourist proficiently</p>

<p><i>What are the units within the syllabus?</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Companion animal behavioural ethology • Theory of learning in a companion animal behavioural context • Companion animal training and handling skills • Companion animal law and ethics • Academic and professional skills for animal trainers and behaviourists
<p><i>How is the qualification assessed?</i></p>	<p>Knowledge and understanding will be assessed by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assignments — set by the Centre and externally quality assured by CQ • Examinations - set and administered by CQ <p>Practical skills will be assessed by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An electronic work-based progress log (Central Skills Log) • Practical examination of essential skills - set and administered by CQ
<p><i>How is the qualification graded?</i></p>	<p>Assignments and examinations are graded pass or fail. All criteria within an assignment must be addressed and all units within the examination paper need to be passed.</p>