



# Level 3 Forest Crafts Person Apprenticeship

**Myerscough  
College**

## Introduction to the Programme

This Royal qualification is a green apprenticeship which has been hand-picked by industry experts to celebrate the Coronation of His Majesty King Charles III.

The broad purpose of the apprenticeship is to carry out the practical operations required to create, maintain and harvest forests and woodlands.

Establishment and maintenance operatives will carry out the range of duties required to prepare the ground, plant trees and undertake ongoing maintenance, including weeding, beating up and pruning. Harvesting operatives will carry out the range of duties required to fell, process and extract trees and timber. Alongside the study of core knowledge, skills and behaviours, apprentices will also complete practical competency qualifications required to work in the forest and woodland sector.

### **Level of Study:**

Level 3 Apprenticeship

### **Typical Duration:**

24 Months + EPA

### **Delivery Location:**

Cumbria/ North- West

### **Delivery Model:**

Work-based with college attendance 1 day per month, plus attendance for additional qualifications.

### **Start Date:**

Intake: September each year

## Duration

This apprenticeship will typically take 24 months to complete. The length may be altered if the apprentice has already gained knowledge and skills working in this sector.

## Entry Requirements

Minimum of 4 GCSEs at grade C/4 including maths and English **OR** a Vocational qualification Level 2, plus GCSE grade C/4 in both maths and English.

NB: English & maths Functional Skills Level 2 will be accepted as an alternative to GCSEs.

## Delivery Location

Delivery is work-based with college attendance approximately once a month for specialist technical workshops and seminars. College attendance will count towards the 20% off the job training requirement. An apprentice will also need to attend college courses to complete the required qualifications.

## Knowledge, Skills & Behaviour Gained Throughout

### Have a knowledge of:

- K1: Health and safety legislation, codes of practice (including Forest Industry Safety Accord guidance) and policies, including risk assessment.
- K2: Biosecurity and environmental legislation, codes of practice and policies including pollution control.
- K3: Principles of silvicultural practice in the UK including those most commonly used, their application, and the UK Forestry Standard.
- K4: Methods to identify trees and woodland plants including botanical keys taking account of seasonality.
- K5: Plant and tree biology, physiology, lifecycles, growing conditions, landscape and timber properties.
- K6: Techniques for measuring standing trees.
- K7: Techniques for felling small trees and removing unwanted vegetation.
- K8: Techniques for planting, supporting and protecting trees and their suitability to different situations including site conditions.
- K9: Implications of tree establishment activities on the end product and impact on decision-making process.
- K10: Timber supply chain (for example timber markets and processing) and the actors within it including roles and responsibilities.
- K11: Maintenance requirements for forest infrastructure, for example boundaries and rides.
- K12: Maintenance, operational requirements and legislation for tools, equipment, machinery, vehicles and attachments.
- K13: Techniques for identification and control of tree pests, diseases and disorders, including impacts of pests and diseases on timber and the wider environment, and the principles of Integrated Pest Management (IPM).
- K14: The importance of maintaining records including digital records and reports.
- K15: Techniques for communicating with technical and non-technical audiences and the importance of effective communication in the workplace with colleagues, customers and the public.
- K16: Implications of changes in conditions, situations and working environments.
- K17: The importance of recording a portfolio of experience and learning to aid career progression.
- K18: The environmental, social and economic value of sustainable forest management.
- K19: Methods for storing, transporting and handling trees and importance for tree health and establishment.

- K20: (Establishment & maintenance) Techniques for protecting and maintaining plants after planting including purpose, timings and suitability to site conditions.
- K21: (Establishment & maintenance) Methods of managing and controlling unwanted vegetation throughout the life cycle of the tree(s).
- K22: (Establishment & maintenance) Methods for controlling vegetation or pests by chemical means (for example pesticides or organic equivalents).
- K23: (Harvesting) Harvesting and extraction systems including tree felling and the factors affecting the cost of bringing timber to market.
- K24: (Harvesting) Techniques for calculating timber in standing and felled trees.

## **Have the ability to:**

- S1: Plan, implement, monitor and review health, safety and welfare of self and others, including creating risk assessments, legislative requirements and organisational policies.
- S2: Plan, implement, check and report environmental mitigation measures, including legal compliance, organisational policies and risk assessment.
- S3: Identify common forestry trees and woodland plants using scientific names.
- S4: Measure trees for assessment of timber volumes.
- S5: Identify and control unwanted vegetation including felling small trees using hand and motor manual tools.
- S6: Plant trees including providing support and protection.
- S7: Monitor and maintain forest and woodland infrastructure for example boundaries and rides.
- S8: Operate and maintain tools, equipment and machinery safely in line with legislation and manufacturers guidance, for example winches, chainsaws or tractors.
- S9: Monitor and control the impact of pests, diseases and disorders.
- S10: Maintain records including digital records and reports.
- S11: Communicate to technical and non-technical audiences including the use of verbal and written techniques.
- S12: Interpret maps, plans and Global Positioning Systems (GPS).
- S13: Store and dispose of waste in accordance with regulations, for example chemicals, organic and inorganic waste, pollution and biosecurity controls.
- S14: Load, unload and transport materials and equipment relative to the business.
- S15: Process information and communicate using digital technology for example emails, word processing software, video meeting software or applications for recording and sharing information.
- S16: Store and handle trees to minimise negative impacts and maximise establishment potential.

- S17: (Establishment & maintenance) Protect and maintain plants after planting including weeding, cleaning, re-spacing, beating up and application of products to prevent unwanted vegetation (for example mulch mat).
- S18: (Establishment & maintenance) Improve quality of tree crop, including brashing and formative pruning.
- S19: (Establishment & maintenance) Control vegetation or pests by chemical means (biocides or organic equivalents).
- S20: (Harvesting) Select trees for harvesting.
- S21: (Harvesting) Fell large trees motor-manually including use of assisted fell techniques.
- S22: (Harvesting) Use hand winches in forestry.
- S23: (Harvesting) Prepare timber for extraction including snedding, measuring, cross cutting and sorting timber to product specification.
- S24: (Harvesting) Calculate timber volumes using mensuration techniques.

### **Have the required behaviours including:**

- B1: Takes ownership of work including attention to detail, spatial awareness and stamina.
- B2: Team-focused and works effectively with colleagues and others.
- B3: Committed to keeping up to date with industry best practice and seeks to continuously improve and develop.
- B4: Ability to work outdoors in all weather conditions.
- B5: Puts safety first for themselves and others.
- B6: Respectful of others and tailors' communication to audience.

## **Core occupation duties**

Duty 1 - Implement health and safety legislation, industry guidance and organisational policies, (for example erecting warning signs at entry points to a worksite.)

Duty 2 Implement biosecurity legislation, industry guidance and organisational policies, (for example disinfecting footwear, tools and equipment before entering, leaving and travelling between work sites.)

Duty 3 Implement pollution control in line with legislation, industry guidance and organisational policies, (for example positioning a spill-kit appropriately prior to refuelling a chainsaw.)

Duty 4 Plant trees

Duty 5 Clear vegetation (for example cleaning, brashing)

Duty 6 Measure and select trees for removal.

Duty 7 Fell small trees.

Duty 8 Maintain forest infrastructure, (for example repair a damaged deer fence.)

Duty 9 Operate and maintain forestry tools, equipment and machinery.

Duty 10 Monitor and control the impact of pests, diseases and disorders.

Duty 11 Maintain records including digital records and reports.

Duty 12 Communicate with supervisor, colleagues, public and others

Duty 13 Use geographical tools including Global Positioning Systems (GPS), maps and plans.

## **Optional occupation duties**

### **Forest establishment and maintenance craftsperson duties**

Duty 14 Manage vegetation (for example pruning and high pruning)

Duty 15 Maintain trees (for example weeding and respacing.)

### **Forest harvesting craftsperson duties**

Duty 16 Measure and select trees for harvesting

Duty 17 Harvest trees and prepare timber for extraction

Duty 18 Extract timber

## Qualifications

The following licence to practice qualifications would be required prior to end point assessment:

Core Qualifications for both routes:

- Level 3 award or training and assessment in first aid at work +F or forestry first aid
- Level 2 award in chainsaw maintenance
- Level 2 award in crosscutting timber using a chainsaw
- Level 2 award in felling and processing trees up to 380mm Establishment Route-
- Level 2 Principles of safe handling and application of pesticide
- Level 2 Award in The Safe Application of Pesticides Using Pedestrian Handheld Equipment
- Level 2 Award in the Safe Use of Brush-cutters and Trimmers
- Level 2 Award in the Safe Use of Forestry Clearing Saw Harvesting Route-
- Level 3 Certificate of Competence in Individual Windblown Trees
- Level 3 Certificate of Competence in Felling and Processing Medium Trees Over 380mm and up to 760mm

**PLEASE NOTE: Students must be able to make their own way to the relevant felling site each day, with all their equipment (the sites are located in the North West but NOT at Myerscough College, Preston Campus). Public transport is not suitable as the sites are unlikely to be accessible by bus & they will be carrying a chainsaw.**

## End Point Assessment

At a point where employer, tutor and apprentice feel is appropriate, apprentices will undertake an end point assessment, which is carried out by a separate approved organisation, independent from Myerscough College.

The end point assessment will contain 3 components:

- Practical assessment with questions
- Online multiple-choice knowledge tests
- Professional discussion underpinned by a portfolio of evidence

There will be 2 levels of achievement: Pass & Distinction

In the unlikely event of an apprentice needing to resit an End Point Assessment (or elements of the End Point Assessment), then the employer will be responsible for funding these additional costs