Haddon Training



# Level 3 **Keeper and Aquarist**

This qualification is an excellent opportunity for individuals passionate about caring for aquatic life and wildlife conservation. The apprenticeship combines specialized knowledge with the hands-on skills necessary for maintaining the health and well-being of diverse species, from aquatics to land-based mammals. Based in reputable zoos, aquariums, or wildlife parks, apprentices will gain expertise in animal husbandry, habitat management, water quality assessment, and conservation practices. Foster a deep understanding of aquatic ecosystems and cultivate a sense of responsibility towards conservation efforts, whilst preparing for a rewarding career in the field of aquatics and wildlife management.

A Keeper and Aquarist will accumulate a wealth of information and abilities, and master their application, including:

**Knowledge Development**

- The principles of basic zoology including the classification of anatomy, physiology and more
- The increasingly significant role zoos play globally in conserving species and their habitats
- The natural history of the animals in their care and how they are best managed
- Nutritional requirements of a range of wild species across all life stages
- Basic veterinary procedures, such as the storage and administration of veterinary medicine

**Skills Enrichment**

- Observe, describe and interpret animal behaviour
- Develop, implement and evaluate appropriate sensory and cognitive enhancement
- Interpret diet sheets and safely store, prepare and present diets
- Administer treatment following instruction from a veterinarian/competent staff member
- Select optimal enclosure substrates and furnishings and maintain them

EDUCATION & TRAINING'S #1 BEST ORGANISATION TO WORK FOR 2025
WORLD CLASS TO WORK FOR 2025
THE UK'S TOP 5 BEST LARGE COMPANIES TO WORK FOR 2025
INVESTORS IN PEOPLE® We invest in people Standard
matrix® quality standard for information advice and guidance services approved by the matrix Accreditation Body
Ofsted Good Provider

# Functional Skills

Maths and English qualifications are an integral element of the apprenticeship standards.

These are implemented by Haddon Training's dedicated Functional Skills team and will be delivered either as individual or group sessions, depending on the learner's requirements. Functional Skills in maths and English for those aged 16-18 years old are a mandatory part of apprenticeships in England unless learners already hold a qualification in these areas at the required level. For learners aged 19 and over, Functional Skills are optional.

| **Functional Skills** | |
|---|---|
| Learners will need to complete: | |
| English | Level 2 |
| Maths | Level 2 |

# Qualification Overview

To achieve the Level 3 Keeper and Aquarist qualification, the learner must complete:

- All mandatory modules.
- All core behaviours.
- The Apprenticeship Assessment, in which all components must be passed.

The apprenticeship is awarded through the successful completion of an Apprenticeship Assessment. This consists of:

- A multiple-choice exam.
- A practical assessment in which the learner will be observed preparing diets, servicing an enclosure, preparing enrichment, conducting animal training and in an enhanced animal contact situation.
- A professional discussion in which the learner is questioned on the knowledge learnt throughout the apprenticeship.

The qualification will take a Minimum of 15 months (plus 3 months to complete assessment), dependent on a learner's prior knowledge and skills recorded on a skill scan and individual learning plan.

## Mandatory Modules Overview

| Knowledge and skills outline |
|---|
| Legislation and regulation |
| Animal accommodation |
| Animal behaviour |
| Animal diets |
| Customer engagement and education |
| Animal handling and restraint |
| Animal health |
| Research |

## Core Behaviours

| Personal and employability skills |
|---|
| Safe working |
| Work ethic |
| Professionalism |
| Positive attitude |
| Teamwork |
| Integrity |

For an in-depth view of the knowledge, skills, behaviours for the Keeper and Aquarist apprenticeship, please visit: https://tinyurl.com/KeeperAndAquaristLevel3

*Please note employers will be assessed before the qualification commences to ensure that they can meet the requirements of any chosen pathway listed above. Please discuss your options further with our team to find out more.

### Progression

Upon completion, learners could progress to the following qualifications if they are in a suitable role:

- Level 3 Animal Care and Welfare Manager
- Level 4 Associate Project Manager