

## Purpose statement

The following purpose is for the **Advanced Technical Diploma in Horticulture (540) 601/7456/0**

Area	Description
<b>OVERVIEW</b>	
Who is this qualification for?	This qualification is for you if you are aged 16-19, and want to work in horticulture. It provides you with a range of specialist technical practical skills and knowledge which will equip you to seek employment or further learning and training within the horticultural industry.
What does this qualification cover?	<p>This qualification gives you the opportunity to study a range of specialist technical practical skills and knowledge that build upon the core skills of safe working practices, equipment and machinery, plant identification, plant health, plant and soil science and maintenance of turf. You can then learn further specialist skills such as sustainable turf management, constructing landscape features such as steps, paths or walls or outdoor horticultural crop production.</p> <p>Centres and providers work with local employers who will contribute to the knowledge and delivery of training. Employers will provide demonstrations and talks on the industry and where possible work placements will also be provided by the employers. This practically based training is ideal preparation for gaining employment in the horticultural industry or specialist further study.</p>
<b>WHAT COULD THIS QUALIFICATION LEAD TO?</b>	
Will the qualification lead to employment, and if so, in which job role and at what level?	<p>You might progress into work as a:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fresh produce technician</li> <li>• Landscape operative</li> <li>• Gardener</li> </ul>
Why choose this qualification over similar qualifications?	<p>This is typically a one year full-time course or you could take it alongside other Level 3 qualification such as A levels over a two year period. It equips you with the core skills and knowledge to enter employment in the horticultural industry and enables progression to a broader range of options than the Technical Certificate. You would take this qualification if you really enjoy the practical aspects of working in a horticultural setting. Employment opportunities that may arise from doing this qualification are very much 'operative' roles i.e. hands-on.</p> <p>City &amp; Guilds offers four sizes of Level 3 qualification in Horticulture: Certificate, Diploma (540), Extended Diploma (720) and Extended Diploma (1080).</p>

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You would take the Certificate if you want an introductory qualification to develop some of the core skills and knowledge required by employers in the horticultural industry. The Certificate is likely to be taken alongside other programmes such as GCSEs or AS Levels over a one-year course of study.

You would take the Diploma (540) if you want a qualification to develop some of the skills and knowledge that can lead to specific roles required by employers in the horticultural industry. The Diploma is likely to be taken alongside other programmes such as GCSEs or AS Levels over a one-year course of study.

You would take the Extended Diploma (720) if you want to specialise, to develop most of the skills and knowledge required by employers in the horticultural industry. The Extended Diploma (720) is likely to be taken as part of a full-time two year programme of study, or alongside other qualifications such as AS or A Levels over a longer period of time.

You would take the Extended Diploma (1080) if you want to specialise and develop the skills and knowledge required by employers in the horticultural industry. The Extended Diploma (1080) is likely to be taken as a full-time programme of study over two years. By taking this large qualification, you will be exposed to, and have the opportunity to gain experience in, the wider horticultural sector. This will enable you to progress to a diverse range of employment opportunities, as you will have gained hands-on experience over 2 years, which employers really value.

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Will the qualification lead to further learning?

You may wish to progress onto an Advanced Apprenticeship in Horticulture, which allows you to combine working for a Public Garden or Park, a Landscape firm, Nursery or a similar job, and typically attending one day a week at College or with a Training Provider.

You could also progress to Higher Education.

You could go on to study subjects such as:

- FdSc Horticulture
- BSc (Hons) Horticulture
- FdSc Sports Turf
- BSc (Hons) Sports Turf Science & Management

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#### WHO SUPPORTS THIS QUALIFICATION?

Employer/Higher Education Institutions

The British Growers Association (BGA)  
The Horticultural Trades Association (HTA)  
The British Association of Landscape Industries (BALI)

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FURTHER INFORMATION

Please refer to the Qualification Handbook, available on the City & Guilds website, for more information on the structure of this qualification, the content of the units, and assessment.

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