

# **Level 3**

# **Senior Equine Groom**

# **ST0167**

## **End-Point Assessment Specification**

October 2023

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## Introduction

End-point assessment (or EPA) is an important part of the apprenticeship. Taken at the end of the apprenticeship programme, the EPA demonstrates that an apprentice has all of the knowledge, skills and behaviours required to carry out their role on a day-to-day basis. The assessments must be completed by an approved independent end-point assessment organisation such as VetSkill.

This specification document provides a summary of the Senior Equine Groom end-point assessment. A full range of support materials are available for users of VetSkill's EPA service.

## Overview of the Senior Equine Groom Apprenticeship

The Senior Equine Groom will provide for and coordinate the day to day care of the horses in the workplace. They will possess all the necessary skills to lead by example and will have the knowledge required to implement effective systems relating to the running of the yard. They will be capable of organising and monitoring the quality of work and ordering and maintaining supplies.

The Senior Equine Groom is a fundamental occupational role in all equine businesses. They can expect to handle and provide exercise for a variety of horses in different working environments. They must adhere to safe working practices, be prepared to work in all weather conditions and often in 'out of hours' situations. They will be required to have dedication, commitment and the physical and mental toughness to cope with the rigours of the role. Living onsite for part or all of the duration of the apprenticeship may also be necessary. The occupation requires competent individuals committed to the safety and welfare of horses in their care. The Senior Equine Groom will be capable of looking after a small to medium sized equine yard and supervising a diverse team of workers. They will be capable of offering advice, support and guidance to their team, whilst possessing appropriate people skills necessary for their chosen sector. They will be required to have a sound base of experience and knowledge and have the right empathy so as to promote the horses' physical and psychological well-being within a safe working environment. The Senior Equine Groom will have a sound knowledge of horse anatomy and physiology and the ability to assess and promote health. They will be able to recognise and treat common minor injuries and ailments. They will be capable of presenting horses to a high standard and can demonstrate the skills required to groom, plait and clip horses. The Senior Equine Groom apprentice will need to decide in which sector of the industry they wish to be progress and select the appropriate occupational route.

## Gateway Requirements

Gateway is the point at which the employer, training provider and apprentice agree that the on-programme stage of the apprenticeship is complete and that the requirements to take the end-point assessment have been met.

To pass through Gateway and take the EPA the apprentice must produce evidence that they have:

- completed a minimum of 12 months of training
- evidence of a minimum of 6 hours per week off-the-job training
- completed a portfolio
- confirmation that the apprentice is consistently working at, or above, the level set out in the Apprenticeship Standard
- achieved Level 2 English and mathematics

## End-Point Assessment Methods

The EPA will span one day for the Practical Observation and Professional Discussion Informed by portfolio and will usually be conducted at the apprentice's normal work location. The Knowledge Test is taken separately under exam conditions and the Apprentice must achieve a minimum pass mark of 70% in order to proceed to the Practical Observation and Professional Discussion informed by the Portfolio.

The assessments delivered will take account of the occupational route selected by the apprentice during the on-programme period: -

- Breeding
- Driving
- Racing
- Riding
- Non-Riding

## Practical Observation

<b>Duration</b>	6 hours
<b>Location</b>	Apprentice's workplace
<b>Grade</b>	Graded Fail / Pass / Distinction

The apprentice will be observed whilst completing a practical assessment as part of their normal duties in the workplace, through naturally occurring evidence. They will be expected to demonstrate the Knowledge, Skills and Behaviours (KSBs) they have learned through completion of the apprenticeship process, in accordance with the Standard.

Observations make use of employer resources and equipment which will be familiar to the apprentice and allow them to perform at their best. Questions are used to clarify the depth of the learner's Knowledge, Skills and Behaviours, where this is required, by probing further into detail where the apprentice has only partially covered the Pass or Distinction criteria, and further clarification is needed to ensure criteria have been met.

It is expected that the observation will cover the majority of the criteria and KSBs which require assessment, however it may not be practical to cover every area due to seasonal or other reasons (e.g. foaling is not occurring at the time, there is no racing or transport activity on that day). **Any Skill that cannot potentially be observed in the Practical Observation is marked with an \* in Appendix A and must be evidenced in the Portfolio to inform the Professional Discussion, allowing a cumulative approach and the opportunity to demonstrate full competency. Any Skill not marked with an \* in Appendix A must be observed in the Practical Observation.**

Apprentices will be provided with information on the format of the observation, including timescale, before the start of the observation. The time taken to give this information is exclusive of the assessment time.

## Professional Discussion Informed by a Portfolio

<b>Duration</b>	75-90 minutes
<b>Location</b>	Any suitable location (normally employer's premises)
<b>Grade</b>	Fail / Pass / Distinction

The discussion takes place after the Knowledge Test (once passed) and Practical Observation under controlled conditions. It has been designed to take place face-to-face in the apprentice's normal workplace; in a suitable location where the apprentice will not be interrupted or distracted.

It is a structured discussion between the apprentice and independent assessor and will explore evidence for areas of the Knowledge, Skills and Behaviours from the Standard that have not been assessed in the Knowledge Test or Practical Observation or areas that require further clarification.

This will include areas of the Standard that have not been observed due to seasonal or other reasons and will provide the opportunity for the Apprentice to use the evidence from their portfolio to illustrate their professional competence.

In the portfolio the apprentice will document evidence collected from written work, small projects, progress review information, earlier workplace observations, videos, photographs and customer comments. The portfolio will contain core and route specific evidence, which will vary according to the route taken. The Skills and Behaviours marked with an asterisk (\*) in Appendix A will be a minimum requirement for the portfolio and should cover the Knowledge, Skills and Behaviours that could potentially not be seen on the day due to seasonal or other reasons. Any activity not marked with an \* must be seen during the Practical Observation by the assessor.

The discussion provides the opportunity for the apprentice to synoptically demonstrate core and specific Knowledge, Skills and Behaviours. It will also cover the Senior Equine Groom apprentice's achievements, the standard of their work and their approach as well as test the currency, validity and coverage of the evidence presented within their Portfolio. The portfolio itself is not assessed nor graded during the Discussion.

## Knowledge Test

<b>Duration</b>	90 minutes
<b>Location</b>	Any suitable location as per VetSkill's Remote Invigilation Policy
<b>Grade</b>	Fail / Pass / Distinction

The Knowledge Test, carried out prior to the Practical Observation and Professional Discussion, is designed to cover areas of knowledge in the Standard that cannot be inferred from the observation of the skills and behaviours within the role e.g. horse anatomy, health and welfare, principles of how horses behave and learn. It consists of 45 multiple-choice questions and five extended answer questions and cover the knowledge criteria as set out in Appendix A for both core and route-specific knowledge.

The apprentice must take the knowledge test in a suitably controlled environment that is a quiet space and free from distractions and influence. Access to reference books or materials is not allowed.

The Apprentice must achieve a minimum pass mark of 70% in order to proceed to the Practical Observation and Professional Discussion informed by the Portfolio.

## Overall Grading

This apprenticeship includes Fail, Pass and Distinction grades. To achieve a Pass grade apprentices will competently perform their role, demonstrating application of the Knowledge, Skills and Behaviours

as set out in the assessment tools. A final grade will be awarded in line with the criteria in the table below.

**Table: Overall Grading**

Assessment method 1 – Practical Observation	Assessment method 2 – Professional Discussion Informed by portfolio	Assessment method 3 – Knowledge test	Overall grading
Distinction	Distinction	90%	<b>Distinction</b>
Pass	Pass	70%	<b>Pass</b>
The apprentice has not achieved a minimum of 70% in the Knowledge Test or a pass in the Practical Observation or Professional Discussion			<b>Fail</b>

- To achieve a pass the apprentice must meet all the assessment criteria to demonstrate all Knowledge, Skills and Behaviour statements as set out in the assessment tools. The statements in Appendix A and the grading descriptors in Appendix B will provide a basis for these assessment criteria.
- To achieve a Distinction the apprentice will have to achieve a higher score in the Knowledge Test (90%) and meet a higher set of assessment criteria as set out in the Assessment tools and based on the Grade Descriptors in Appendix B in the Knowledge; Skills and Behaviours (Core and chosen Occupational Route) of the Standard.

## Re-sits and Re-takes

Where an apprentice fails one or more assessment methods, a re-sit(s)/re-take(s) may be allowed, provided it is within the EPA period of six months from Gateway, in accordance with the assessment plan for this Standard.

Re-sits/re-takes outside of this six-month period would require all elements of the EPA to be undertaken again. Each individual case will be jointly discussed between the employer and VetSkill and any action, if agreed, will be at the discretion of the employer. Re-sits are not permitted as a means for improving a grade, eg, from a Pass to a Distinction. A re-take is where the apprentice requires further learning/training, whereas a re-sit does not; apprentices who require a re-take should have a support plan agreed to prepare them for this.



## Certification

VetSkill will apply for the Apprenticeship Certificate within 20 working days of providing the overall result for the apprentice's End-point Assessment. The ESFA will issue and send the Apprenticeship Certificate to the apprentice's employer by recorded delivery; **this can take up to 20 further days from application by VetSkill.**

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## Appendix A: KSBs Mapped to Assessment Methods

A Senior Equine Groom will work in one of the following five route-specific industry environments: Breeding (B), Driving (D), Racing (RA), Riding (RI) or Non-Riding (NR). The Apprentice will need to demonstrate the core Knowledge, Skills and Behaviours detailed below, plus the specialist Knowledge and Skills for the route-specific environment.

### Knowledge, Skills and Behaviours to be assessed by each assessment method

Assessment method
Practical Observation
Professional Discussion informed by a portfolio
Knowledge Test

A reference code has been assigned to each of the Knowledge, Skills and Behaviours (K, S & B) required in the Standard for both the core (C) and the chosen route (Breeding (B), Driving (D), Racing (RA), Riding (RI) or Non-Riding (NR)).

There are designated **Primary** and **Secondary** Methods of Assessment for each K, S & B statement. The reason for this is due to the synoptic nature of the Assessment Methods. Whilst the Knowledge will primarily be tested in the Knowledge Test and the Skills in the Practical Observation, the Professional Discussion and Portfolio will evidence all underlying Knowledge, Skills and Behaviours. For this reason, it will be designated as the secondary method of assessment for the Knowledge and Skills and should be used to support and not replace the Primary Assessment Methods.

Mapping of knowledge, skills and behaviours (KSBs)	PRIMARY AND SECONDARY METHODS OF ASSESSMENT	
<b>KNOWLEDGE</b>		
<b>CK1:</b> Current health, safety and security requirements, policies and procedures including Personal Protective Equipment (PPE).	<b>Knowledge Test</b>	<b>Professional Discussion</b>
<b>CK2:</b> Current Rules and Codes of Practice and ethics relevant to the workplace.	<b>Knowledge Test</b>	<b>Professional Discussion</b>

<b>CK3:</b> The principles of current employment rights and responsibilities.	<b>Knowledge Test</b>	<b>Professional Discussion</b>
<b>CK4:</b> The organisation of yard and field duties, rotas and routines	<b>Knowledge Test</b>	<b>Professional Discussion</b>
<b>CK5:</b> Requirements for stocks and supplies of feed and bedding.	<b>Knowledge Test</b>	<b>Professional Discussion</b>
<b>CK6:</b> The preparation and maintenance of different types of stabling and grassland.	<b>Knowledge Test</b>	<b>Professional Discussion</b>
<b>CK7:</b> How to assess the risk of disease outbreak and the measures to prevent and control the spread of disease.	<b>Knowledge Test</b>	<b>Professional Discussion</b>
<b>CK8:</b> The need for and how to work in an environmentally sustainable manner.	<b>Knowledge Test</b>	<b>Professional Discussion</b>
<b>CK9:</b> Anatomy and physiology, to include conformation, main superficial muscles, structure of the lower leg and the respiratory and circulatory systems.	<b>Knowledge Test</b>	<b>Professional Discussion</b>
<b>CK10:</b> How to assess welfare (including health), condition and fitness.	<b>Knowledge Test</b>	<b>Professional Discussion</b>
<b>CK11:</b> Common minor ailments, injuries and administering first aid and treatments.	<b>Knowledge Test</b>	<b>Professional Discussion</b>
<b>CK12:</b> Procedures for isolation and sick nursing.	<b>Knowledge Test</b>	<b>Professional Discussion</b>
<b>CK13:</b> The importance of monitoring temperature, pulse and respiration rates.	<b>Knowledge Test</b>	<b>Professional Discussion</b>
<b>CK14:</b> Medication control procedures and accepted protocol.	<b>Knowledge Test</b>	<b>Professional Discussion</b>
<b>CK15:</b> Appropriate methods of handling and restraint and their use in different circumstances.	<b>Knowledge Test</b>	<b>Professional Discussion</b>
<b>CK16:</b> Procedures for grooming, clipping, trimming, pulling and plaiting a range of horses in preparation for different types of work, competition, public appearance and veterinary procedures.	<b>Knowledge Test</b>	<b>Professional Discussion</b>
<b>CK17:</b> The horse's foot, shoeing and different types of shoes and how to remove a loose or twisted shoe.	<b>Knowledge Test</b>	<b>Professional Discussion</b>
<b>CK18:</b> Nutritional requirements including hydration for a variety of horses in different types of work.	<b>Knowledge Test</b>	<b>Professional Discussion</b>
<b>CK19:</b> Fitness requirements and programmes for a variety of horses in different disciplines.	<b>Knowledge Test</b>	<b>Professional Discussion</b>
<b>CK20:</b> Requirements when planning travel for horses including equipment, supplies and documentation.	<b>Knowledge Test</b>	<b>Professional Discussion</b>
<b>CK21:</b> The current legislation and procedures relating to loading, unloading and travelling horses.	<b>Knowledge Test</b>	<b>Professional Discussion</b>

<b>CK22:</b> The benefits and practice of various forms of non-ridden exercise including lunging and long-reining. Different lunging/ long-reining equipment and methods.	<b>Knowledge Test</b>	<b>Professional Discussion</b>
<b>SKILL</b>	<b>PRIMARY AND SECONDARY METHODS OF ASSESSMENT</b>	
<b>CS1:</b> Promote, monitor and maintain safe working practices at all times and comply with current health, safety and security policies and procedures (including PPE).	<b>Practical Observation</b>	<b>Professional Discussion</b>
<b>CS2:</b> Contribute to risk assessments.	<b>Practical Observation</b>	<b>Professional Discussion</b>
<b>CS3:</b> Organise, supervise and carry out all yard and field duties, day-to-day rotas and routines including liaising with vet, farrier and other visiting specialists.	<b>Practical Observation</b>	<b>Professional Discussion</b>
<b>CS4:</b> Maintain and organise basic yard-based records including farrier, worming, vaccinations, etc.	<b>Practical Observation</b>	<b>Professional Discussion</b>
<b>CS5:</b> Monitor, maintain and assess quality of stocks and supplies of feed and bedding.	<b>Practical Observation</b>	<b>Professional Discussion</b>
<b>CS6:</b> Evaluate, prepare and maintain stabling and grassland for horses.	<b>Practical Observation</b>	<b>Professional Discussion</b>
<b>CS7:</b> Manage horses stabled and at grass.	<b>Practical Observation</b>	<b>Professional Discussion</b>
<b>CS8:</b> Implement measures to prevent and control the spread of disease.	<b>Practical Observation</b>	<b>Professional Discussion</b>
<b>CS9:</b> Coordinate waste minimisation, environmental and sustainable working practices.	<b>Practical Observation</b>	<b>Professional Discussion</b>
<b>CS10:</b> Supervise admission of a new horse and carry out an initial assessment, to include record keeping and health status.	<b>Practical Observation</b>	<b>Professional Discussion</b>
<b>CS11:</b> Identify and discuss main superficial muscles and structure of the lower leg and foot.	<b>Practical Observation</b>	<b>Professional Discussion</b>
<b>CS12:</b> Assess and evaluate a horse including conformation, action, condition and fitness.	<b>Practical Observation</b>	<b>Professional Discussion</b>
<b>CS13:</b> Assess welfare (including health), recognise and treat common minor ailments and injuries.	<b>Practical Observation</b>	<b>Professional Discussion</b>
<b>CS14:</b> Administer first aid and treatments under veterinary advice to include poultices, dressings and bandages.	<b>Practical Observation</b>	<b>Professional Discussion</b>
<b>CS15:</b> Administer permitted oral and topical treatments under direction	<b>Practical Observation</b>	<b>Professional Discussion</b>
<b>CS16:</b> Take temperature, pulse and respiration rates of the horse.	<b>Practical Observation</b>	<b>Professional Discussion</b>
<b>CS17:</b> Identify and use appropriate methods to handle or restrain a horse.	<b>Practical Observation</b>	<b>Professional Discussion</b>

<b>CS18:</b> Prepare a range of horses for different types of work or competition to include grooming, clipping, trimming, pulling and plaiting.	<b>Practical Observation</b>	<b>Professional Discussion</b>
<b>CS19:</b> Recognise and discuss hoof balance. Demonstrate the correct procedure for removal of a shoe in line with current legislation.	<b>Practical Observation</b>	<b>Professional Discussion</b>
<b>CS20:</b> Plan and implement diets and feeding regimes.	<b>Practical Observation</b>	<b>Professional Discussion</b>
<b>CS21:</b> Organise the feed room and stock rotation.	<b>Practical Observation</b>	<b>Professional Discussion</b>
<b>CS22:</b> Coordinate the preparation for travelling horses including supplies, equipment, etc.	<b>Practical Observation</b>	<b>Professional Discussion</b>
<b>CS23:</b> Plan the transportation of horses by road taking into account current guidelines, documentation requirements and procedures.	<b>Practical Observation</b>	<b>Professional Discussion</b>
<b>CS24:</b> Prepare a horse for transport, load and unload safely following current health and safety protocol.	<b>Practical Observation</b>	<b>Professional Discussion</b>
<b>CS25:</b> Supervise and care for horses during and after transportation.	<b>Practical Observation</b>	<b>Professional Discussion</b>
<b>CS26:</b> Prepare and lunge a horse for exercise using various types of equipment appropriately.	<b>Practical Observation</b>	<b>Professional Discussion</b>
<b>BEHAVIOUR</b>	<b>PRIMARY AND SECONDARY METHODS OF ASSESSMENT</b>	
<b>CB1: Safe Working</b> Promote, monitor and enhance safe working practices, which must be adhered to at all times with constant situational awareness and adaptability to ensure safety of the horse, themselves and others.	<b>Practical Observation</b>	<b>Professional Discussion</b>
<b>CB2 (*): Work Ethic</b> Have a strong work ethic, be a good role model and mentor for others. Be respectful, punctual, reliable, trustworthy and diligent and be prepared to work irregular hours, in all weather conditions. Work effectively and encourage efficiency to meet time deadlines and organisational requirements. Take a pride in their work showing commitment and loyalty whilst conducting themselves in a professional manner.	<b>Practical Observation</b>	<b>Professional Discussion</b>
<b>CB3 (*): Responsibility</b> Assume a role of responsibility in the workplace. Organise themselves, delegate tasks, supervise and monitor others and the equines in their care. Show respect, empathy,	<b>Practical Observation</b>	<b>Professional Discussion</b>

patience and tolerance in all situations. Work with methods that reduce risk of injury to the horse, themselves or others.		
<b>CB4 (*) : Team Work</b> Have the ability to work in, lead, support and motivate a diverse team. Understand their role within the team and their impact on others. Promote good working relationships, reduce, manage and report conflict within the team when necessary. Contribute to and support the training and development of others.	<b>Practical Observation</b>	<b>Professional Discussion</b>
<b>CB5 (*) : Communication</b> Respect the need for confidentiality and adhere to data protection policies. Confidently and respectfully communicate with all colleagues, visitors, clients and industry specialists. Show good interpersonal skills and accurately report any concerns, incidents and abnormalities. Know when to ask for, offer and give advice and guidance. Use social media responsibly.	<b>Practical Observation</b>	<b>Professional Discussion</b>

### Route Specific Knowledge (K) and Skills (S) to be assessed (The apprentice will select one of five specialised routes)

Breeding Specific Knowledge to be assessed	PRIMARY AND SECONDARY METHODS OF ASSESSMENT	
<b>BK1:</b> Pedigrees, stud contracts, Codes of Practice, veterinary certificates and the importance of accurate, confidential recording in a global industry.	<b>Knowledge Test</b>	<b>Professional Discussion</b>
<b>BK2:</b> Reproductive anatomy and physiology of both sexes; gestation and parturition processes.	<b>Knowledge Test</b>	<b>Professional Discussion</b>
<b>BK3:</b> Artificial manipulation of the reproductive processes and common veterinary and studwork techniques.	<b>Knowledge Test</b>	<b>Professional Discussion</b>
<b>BK4:</b> The benefits and drawbacks of natural and non-natural covering methods including artificial insemination techniques, embryo transfer and semen collection, evaluation and freezing.	<b>Knowledge Test</b>	<b>Professional Discussion</b>
<b>BK5:</b> Routine management of all breeding and youngstock at grass or stabled throughout the year to include weaning methods and issues.	<b>Knowledge Test</b>	<b>Professional Discussion</b>

<b>BK6:</b> Foaling and the care of mares and neonates to include the management of emergency foaling situations and fostering.	<b>Knowledge Test</b>	<b>Professional Discussion</b>
<b>BK7:</b> Common developmental issues in foals and growing youngstock.	<b>Knowledge Test</b>	<b>Professional Discussion</b>
<b>Breeding Specific Skills to be assessed</b>	<b>PRIMARY AND SECONDARY METHODS OF ASSESSMENT</b>	
<b>BS1:</b> Use correct terminology, paperwork, pedigree knowledge and hygiene practices within regular studwork.	<b>Practical Observation</b>	<b>Professional Discussion</b>
<b>BS2:</b> Assist with recording breeding information as appropriate.	<b>Practical Observation</b>	<b>Professional Discussion</b>
<b>BS3:</b> Be able to tease and make recommendations on subsequent actions. Assist with the preparation for coverings.	<b>Practical Observation</b>	<b>Professional Discussion</b>
<b>BS4 (*):</b> Prepare a foaling environment and assist during normal foaling, to include examination of the placenta. Recognise non-normal foaling events and the actions to be taken.	<b>Practical Observation</b>	<b>Professional Discussion</b>
<b>BS5:</b> Manage, monitor and maintain routine care, well-being and handling of breeding and youngstock.	<b>Practical Observation</b>	<b>Professional Discussion</b>
<b>BS6 (*):</b> Assist with successful weaning processes and implement fostering programmes and care of orphan foals.	<b>Practical Observation</b>	<b>Professional Discussion</b>
<b>BS7:</b> Monitor, maintain and manage the health and well-being of breeding and youngstock.	<b>Practical Observation</b>	<b>Professional Discussion</b>
<b>BS8:</b> Present a male horse correctly for inspection.	<b>Practical Observation</b>	<b>Professional Discussion</b>
<b>Driving Specific Knowledge to be assessed</b>	<b>PRIMARY AND SECONDARY METHODS OF ASSESSMENT</b>	
<b>DK1:</b> The correct use of full, breast and empathy collars, open and quick release tugs and a variety of driving bits.	<b>Knowledge Test</b>	<b>Professional Discussion</b>
<b>DK2:</b> All parts of a single set of modern composite competition harness including modern adaptations for specific competition vehicles.	<b>Knowledge Test</b>	<b>Professional Discussion</b>
<b>DK3:</b> The fit of a variety of single harness to two and four wheeled vehicles and correct fit of pairs harness.	<b>Knowledge Test</b>	<b>Professional Discussion</b>
<b>DK4:</b> The cleaning of competition harness including patent leather and brass furniture (buckles) to show/ presentation standard.	<b>Knowledge Test</b>	<b>Professional Discussion</b>
<b>DK5:</b> The cleaning and presentation of vehicles for competition to show/ presentation standard including appropriate storage.	<b>Knowledge Test</b>	<b>Professional Discussion</b>

<b>DK6:</b> The extensive requirements of equipment for a show/turn out including listing all necessary equipment for drivers, horses, carriages and portable stabling.	<b>Knowledge Test</b>	<b>Professional Discussion</b>
<b>DK7:</b> The clothing requirements for both driver and groom for showing/ driving/ trials/ pleasure driving.	<b>Knowledge Test</b>	<b>Professional Discussion</b>
<b>Driving Specific Skills to be assessed</b>	<b>PRIMARY AND SECONDARY METHODS OF ASSESSMENT</b>	
<b>DS1:</b> Prepare a turnout for exercise and competition.	<b>Practical Observation</b>	<b>Professional Discussion</b>
<b>DS2:</b> Harness up and put to with an assistant a pair turnout.	<b>Practical Observation</b>	<b>Professional Discussion</b>
<b>DS3:</b> Drive a single turnout in a training area and on the highway demonstrating safe rein handling and whip use. School the turnout in basic correct way of going.	<b>Practical Observation</b>	<b>Professional Discussion</b>
<b>DS4:</b> Exercise horses/ponies in a non driving environment, including being able to lunge or long-rein in an enclosed area to improve the horse and to maintain and embed the horse in correct way of going, using a variety of equipment.	<b>Practical Observation</b>	<b>Professional Discussion</b>
<b>DS5:</b> Prepare comprehensive equipment lists for shows and events for drivers, horses, carriages and portable stabling.	<b>Practical Observation</b>	<b>Professional Discussion</b>
<b>DS6:</b> Discuss and initiate methods of loading and transportation of equipment.	<b>Practical Observation</b>	<b>Professional Discussion</b>
<b>DS7(*):</b> Design, coordinate and review a fittening and feeding programme for competition turnout including physiotherapy where necessary.	<b>Practical Observation</b>	<b>Professional Discussion</b>
<b>DS8:</b> Evaluate the use of specialist equipment in the fittening and training of driving horses	<b>Practical Observation</b>	<b>Professional Discussion</b>
<b>Racing Specific Knowledge to be assessed</b>	<b>PRIMARY AND SECONDARY METHODS OF ASSESSMENT</b>	
<b>RAK1:</b> The supervision of the Thoroughbred racehorse as a high performance equine athlete and the specific exercise regimes used in the racing industry to prepare and train horses to race.	<b>Knowledge Test</b>	<b>Professional Discussion</b>
<b>RAK2:</b> The early education of the racehorse including the breaking and training process.	<b>Knowledge Test</b>	<b>Professional Discussion</b>
<b>RAK3:</b> The effective supervision of horses and staff in the racing yard, on the gallops, at the races and at public sales venues.	<b>Knowledge Test</b>	<b>Professional Discussion</b>
<b>RAK4:</b> The Orders and Rules of Racing, technical racing terms and vocabulary, racing industry structure and organisation.	<b>Knowledge Test</b>	<b>Professional Discussion</b>



<b>RAK5:</b> Racecourse procedures including saddling up and parade ring protocol	<b>Knowledge Test</b>	<b>Professional Discussion</b>
<b>Racing Specific Skills to be assessed</b>	<b>PRIMARY AND SECONDARY METHODS OF ASSESSMENT</b>	
<b>RAS1:</b> Handle Thoroughbred racehorses in and out of full training including young horses and those with training problems.	<b>Practical Observation</b>	<b>Professional Discussion</b>
<b>RAS2 (*)</b> : Contribute to the early education and effective training of the horse to prepare for, and improve racecourse performance.	<b>Practical Observation</b>	<b>Professional Discussion</b>
<b>RAS3:</b> Assist in introducing young horses to equipment and tack.	<b>Practical Observation</b>	<b>Professional Discussion</b>
<b>RAS4 (*)</b> : Ensure compliance with all industry regulatory requirements at the races or sales.	<b>Practical Observation</b>	<b>Professional Discussion</b>
<b>RAS5 (*)</b> : Prepare horses at the race and assist with saddling up and the parade ring procedures.	<b>Practical Observation</b>	<b>Professional Discussion</b>
<b>In addition to the above specialist Racing knowledge and skills, Senior Equine Groom Apprentices taking the Racing Route will be required to select one of two racing pathways as follows: -</b>		
<b>RAS6 (i) (*)</b> : i) Senior Racing Exercise Grooms: Ride racehorses effectively to improve performance including riding at speed, on all types of surface or any type of horse including young horses, unfit and race-fit horses and those with training problems. Ride alone, in groups and in a string. Ride fast work and school horses through the stalls or over obstacles. Provide accurate feedback on horse performance. Maintain own health and fitness to adhere to industry weight requirements and physical demands of riding for up to six hours a day.	<b>Practical Observation</b>	<b>Professional Discussion</b>
<b>RAS6: (ii) (*)</b> ii) Senior Yard Based Grooms: Contribute to the design, implementation, evaluation and modification of individual training programmes for racehorses. Assist with preparing a horse to race fitness through careful consideration of correct work, feeding and healthcare. Assess a horse's current condition, fitness and educational needs prior to planning an appropriate work programme. Assist with the implementation of training programmes. Supervise the effective organisation and maintenance of facilities and resources used to train horses in the commercial racing premises.	<b>Practical Observation</b>	<b>Professional Discussion</b>

Riding Specific Knowledge to be assessed	PRIMARY AND SECONDARY METHODS OF ASSESSMENT	
<b>RIK1:</b> The cleaning and preparation of saddlery and equipment for work and competition to the appropriate standard required.	Knowledge Test	Professional Discussion
<b>RIK2:</b> Different saddlery and equipment requirements for work and competition.	Knowledge Test	Professional Discussion
<b>RIK3:</b> The influence of rider position. The principles of equitation theory.	Knowledge Test	Professional Discussion
<b>RIK4:</b> The principles of training to include rhythm, balance, suppleness, straightness and impulsion, the reasons for them and how they influence and develop the horse's way of going.	Knowledge Test	Professional Discussion
<b>RIK5:</b> The use of exercises such as transitions, variation of pace and lateral movements to improve, develop and enhance performance.	Knowledge Test	Professional Discussion
<b>RIK6:</b> The use of exercises over ground poles, understanding related distances/striding to improve, develop and enhance performance.	Knowledge Test	Professional Discussion
<b>RIK7:</b> The different types of jumps and courses for show jumping and cross-country.	Knowledge Test	Professional Discussion
<b>RIK8:</b> The importance of following owner's, employer's and manager's instructions for schooling or exercising.	Knowledge Test	Professional Discussion
Riding Specific Skills to be assessed	PRIMARY AND SECONDARY METHODS OF ASSESSMENT	
<b>RIS1:</b> Clean and prepare equipment for work and competition to the appropriate standard.	Practical Observation	Professional Discussion
<b>RIS2:</b> Prepare horses for work and competition including selecting and fitting correct discipline-specific saddlery and equipment.	Practical Observation	Professional Discussion
<b>RIS3:</b> Exercise a variety of horses in all paces with and without stirrups maintaining an established position showing balance, independence and a supple seat.	Practical Observation	Professional Discussion
<b>RIS4:</b> Ride horses of varying levels of fitness and training for exercise, understanding the type of work needed to maintain fitness.	Practical Observation	Professional Discussion
<b>RIS5:</b> School a variety of fit horses with refined and coordinated aids showing feel, respect and an understanding of the horse's way of going to develop the horse appropriately and according to instruction.	Practical Observation	Professional Discussion

<b>RIS6:</b> Ride appropriate exercises including transitions, variation of pace, and lateral movements to improve and develop work.	<b>Practical Observation</b>	<b>Professional Discussion</b>
<b>RIS7:</b> Ride a variety of exercises over ground poles at canter, to enable progression to ride, where practical, over a course of show jumps and cross-country fences, showing confidence and control, in a balanced and secure position.	<b>Practical Observation</b>	<b>Professional Discussion</b>
<b>RIS8 (*)</b> : Design, implement and review work and fitness programmes.	<b>Practical Observation</b>	<b>Professional Discussion</b>
<b>Non-Riding Specific Knowledge to be assessed</b>	<b>PRIMARY AND SECONDARY METHODS OF ASSESSMENT</b>	
<b>NRK1:</b> The cleaning and preparation of saddlery and equipment for work and competition to the appropriate standard required.	<b>Knowledge Test</b>	<b>Professional Discussion</b>
<b>NRK2:</b> Different saddlery and equipment requirements for work and competition.	<b>Knowledge Test</b>	<b>Professional Discussion</b>
<b>NRK3:</b> The importance and requirements of maintenance programmes and how to action and implement them.	<b>Knowledge Test</b>	<b>Professional Discussion</b>
<b>NRK4:</b> The importance of tendering and checking quality of supplies and suppliers.	<b>Knowledge Test</b>	<b>Professional Discussion</b>
<b>NRK5:</b> The significance and benefits of promoting the business through various channels.	<b>Knowledge Test</b>	<b>Professional Discussion</b>
<b>NRK6:</b> The need for, and methods of diversification and the on-going impact on the business.	<b>Knowledge Test</b>	<b>Professional Discussion</b>
<b>NRK7:</b> What is involved in, and how to plan and organise an event, show or activity.	<b>Knowledge Test</b>	<b>Professional Discussion</b>
<b>NRK8:</b> The need for, and methods of delivering and monitoring customer care and satisfaction.	<b>Knowledge Test</b>	<b>Professional Discussion</b>
<b>NRK9:</b> IT skills and use of current workplace software and databases.	<b>Knowledge Test</b>	<b>Professional Discussion</b>
<b>NRK10:</b> Office duties including simple record keeping such as budgets and staff records.	<b>Knowledge Test</b>	<b>Professional Discussion</b>
<b>NRK11:</b> The need for, design of and implementation of programmes for recovery, recuperation and rehabilitation.	<b>Knowledge Test</b>	<b>Professional Discussion</b>
<b>NRK12:</b> The principles of equitation theory.	<b>Knowledge Test</b>	<b>Professional Discussion</b>
<b>Non-Riding Specific Skills to be assessed</b>	<b>PRIMARY AND SECONDARY METHODS OF ASSESSMENT</b>	
<b>NRS1:</b> Clean and prepare equipment for work and competition to the appropriate standard.	<b>Practical Observation</b>	<b>Professional Discussion</b>

<b>NRS2:</b> Prepare horses for work and competition including selecting and fitting correct discipline-specific saddlery and equipment.	<b>Practical Observation</b>	<b>Professional Discussion</b>
<b>NRS3 (*)</b> : Coordinate and supervise maintenance programmes for the establishment. Monitor the choice and quality of supplies and suppliers.	<b>Practical Observation</b>	<b>Professional Discussion</b>
<b>NRS4 (*)</b> : Promote the business through word of mouth, advertising, social media and the internet.	<b>Practical Observation</b>	<b>Professional Discussion</b>
<b>NRS5 (*)</b> : Plan, organise and implement a variety of events/shows or activities, whilst constantly looking for ways to diversify and improve the business.	<b>Practical Observation</b>	<b>Professional Discussion</b>
<b>NRS6:</b> Deliver, monitor, review and improve customer care and satisfaction	<b>Practical Observation</b>	<b>Professional Discussion</b>
<b>NRS7:</b> Carry out office duties including using IT for budgets and record keeping.	<b>Practical Observation</b>	<b>Professional Discussion</b>
<b>NRS8 (*)</b> : Implement, record and review a programme for recovery, recuperation or rehabilitation.	<b>Practical Observation</b>	<b>Professional Discussion</b>
<b>NRS9 (*)</b> : Design and review work and fitness programmes and implement non-ridden exercise regimes.	<b>Practical Observation</b>	<b>Professional Discussion</b>
<b>NRS10:</b> Prepare and long-rein a horse for exercise.	<b>Practical Observation</b>	<b>Professional Discussion</b>

## Appendix B: Grading Descriptors

### Grading Descriptors End-point Assessment Method 1: Practical Observation

KSBs	FAIL	PASS	DISTINCTION
<b>Safe Working Practices</b>	<p>The Apprentice will be deemed to have failed the Practical Observation if they do not provide evidence to meet all the Knowledge, Skills and Behaviour requirements set out for the Practical Observation in Annex 1, or if they display one or more of the criteria below:</p> <p><b>The Apprentice:</b></p> <p>Lacks the ability to promote, monitor or maintain safe working practices.</p> <p>Demonstrates a lack of understanding or is unable to contribute to risk assessments.</p> <p>Displays a lack of awareness of health and safety that the Assessor considers to endanger themselves, the horse or</p>	<p>The Apprentice will be deemed to have passed the Practical Observation if they provide evidence to meet all the Knowledge, Skills and Behaviour requirements set out for the Practical Observation in Annex 1 and meet all of the criteria below:</p> <p><b>The Apprentice:</b></p> <p>Promotes, monitors and maintains safe working practices at all times and complies with current health, safety and security policies and procedures (including PPE).</p> <p>Demonstrates an understanding of, and how to appropriately contribute to risk assessments.</p>	<p>The Apprentice will be deemed to have achieved a Distinction if they provide evidence to meet all the Knowledge, Skills and Behaviour requirements set out for the Practical Observation in Annex 1, the pass criteria and also the additional criteria below:</p> <p><b>The Apprentice:</b></p> <p>Is proactive in implementing improvements of all safe working practices, constantly aware and monitoring the wider working environment.</p> <p>Has a clear and comprehensive understanding and actively contributes to, advises and educates others on safe working practices and risk assessments.</p>

	others when carrying out any part of the Practical Observation of the EPA.		
<b>Yard and Field Routines and Duties</b>	<p>Lacks the ability to organise yard and field duties or day-to-day rotas efficiently.</p> <p>Is unable to engage and communicate effectively when organising or supervising others and when liaising with vet, farrier and other visiting specialists.</p> <p>Is unable to maintain or organise basic yard based records correctly.</p> <p>Is unclear how to monitor, maintain or assess the quality of stocks and supplies of feed and bedding.</p> <p>Is unable to adequately evaluate, prepare or maintain stabling or grassland for horses.</p> <p>Demonstrates a lack of confidence and awareness of welfare and safety when managing horses.</p>	<p>Effectively organises, supervises and carries out all yard and field duties, day-to-day rotas and routines assuming a role of responsibility and is able to work in, lead, support and motivate a team, understanding their role and impact on others.</p> <p>Engages and communicates appropriately when supervising others and liaising with vet, farrier and other visiting specialists.</p> <p>Maintains and organises basic yard-based records including farrier, worming, vaccinations, etc.</p> <p>Monitors, maintains and assesses quality of stocks and supplies of feed and bedding.</p> <p>Correctly evaluates, prepares and maintains stabling and grassland for horses.</p>	<p>Is organised and proactive with constant attention to detail, completing tasks under the time allocated and contributing positively to the effective day-to-day working of the establishment.</p> <p>Builds rapport, establishing good interpersonal relationships when communicating or liaising with others.</p> <p>Recommends and actions improvements to yard-based records.</p> <p>In addition to monitoring, maintaining and assessing quality of stocks and supplies of feed and bedding the Apprentice can also discuss recent developments and new products on the market and their relative costs.</p> <p>Puts forward positive suggestions on current stabling and grassland and</p>

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	<p>Is unclear on disease control and preventative measures.</p> <p>Is unaware of ways to minimise waste or works without due regard for the environment or sustainability.</p> <p>Is unable to make an initial assessment of a new horse or unclear on records or assessing health status and admission procedures.</p>	<p>Can consistently, safely and confidently manage horses stabled and at grass with empathy and due regard for horse welfare adhering to the Animal Welfare Act.</p> <p>Can discuss and demonstrate measures to prevent and control the spread of disease.</p> <p>Coordinates waste minimisation, environmental and sustainable working practices with due regard for reducing, reusing, recycling and disposal of waste.</p> <p>Selects appropriate techniques and methods that are applied consistently, safely and confidently when supervising admission of a new horse and carries out an initial assessment, to include record keeping and health status.</p>	<p>how their management could be improved.</p> <p>Displays a comprehensive understanding of different equine diseases and their signs, symptoms and treatment as well as their control and prevention.</p> <p>Promotes and encourages environmental awareness to ensure others are aware of their environmental responsibilities and aims to continually improve environmental performance by identifying and addressing environmental risk.</p> <p>Is able to make a detailed and accurate assessment of a new horse, including suitability and possible potential within their new environment, gives clear and comprehensive advice and guidance on admission procedures to assistants and colleagues making suggestions for initial programme of management.</p>
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<p><b>Horse Anatomy, Physiology and Welfare</b></p>	<p>Has an inadequate recall, omits details or shows errors when identifying or describing main superficial muscles or structure of the lower leg and foot.</p> <p>Gives incomplete or incorrect assessment and evaluation of horse, or is unable to correctly recognise and discuss conformation, action, condition or fitness of horse, or discuss the circulatory or respiratory system.</p> <p>Gives an inadequate assessment of welfare (including health) or unsure when recognising and treating minor ailments and injuries. Unable to follow yard practices or unclear when to phone the vet.</p> <p>Is unable to follow veterinary advice or unable to correctly administer first aid treatments.</p> <p>Is unable to correctly administer oral or topical treatments under direction.</p>	<p>Correctly identifies and describes location and function of main superficial muscles and structure of the lower leg and foot.</p> <p>Correctly assesses and evaluates a horse including conformation, action, condition and fitness including discussing the circulatory and respiratory systems.</p> <p>Correctly assesses welfare (including health) and can recognise and treat common minor ailments and injuries according to workplace practices and know when to phone the vet.</p> <p>Correctly administers first aid and treatments under veterinary advice to include poultices, dressings and bandages.</p> <p>Is able to correctly administer permitted oral and topical treatments under direction.</p>	<p>Has a comprehensive knowledge of the circulatory, respiratory and musculoskeletal systems of the horse and the different requirements of conformation, fitness and condition for various disciplines for work, show, or competition.</p> <p>Makes accurate and reliable judgements with a comprehensive knowledge and understanding of welfare, various ailments and injuries and current best practice and protocol for treatment plan and when to refer to the vet.</p> <p>Is highly organised, efficient and proactive, with constant attention to detail, making a positive contribution to the horses' recovery</p>
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	<p>Is unclear on procedure for taking temperature, pulse and respiration rates or is unable to correctly interpret results and their implications.</p>	<p>Confidently and correctly takes temperature, pulse and respiration rates of the horse and can interpret and discuss the results and their implications.</p>	
<p><b>Horse Handling, Care and Welfare</b></p>	<p>Is unable to correctly identify or use appropriate methods when handling or restraining horses. Lacks practical horsemanship skills or empathy and has insufficient regard for horse welfare or natural instincts, mental abilities and the principles of how horses behave and learn.</p> <p>Is ineffective or unsafe when demonstrating how to prepare horses for different work, competition or public appearance with inefficient use of time or resulting in a poor quality or incorrect finish.</p> <p>Demonstrates inaccuracies when recognising or identifying types of shoe and hoof balance or is unable to demonstrate the correct procedure for</p>	<p>Can correctly identify and use appropriate methods to handle or restrain a horse, demonstrating practical horsemanship skills with empathy and due regard for horse welfare, along with taking into account the horses' natural instincts, mental abilities and the principles of how horses behave and learn.</p> <p>Can safely and effectively demonstrate how to prepare a range of horses for different types of work, competition or public appearance to include appropriate grooming, clipping*, trimming*, pulling* and plaiting techniques with efficient use of time to produce a professional correct finish.</p> <p>Correctly recognises, identifies and discusses types of shoe and hoof</p>	<p>Is able to create a positive, calm rapport with a variety of horses and is constantly mindful of the horses natural instincts, mental abilities and the principles of how horses behave and learn, when handling horses using appropriate methods of restraint with due regard for horse welfare in all situations including show, competition or public appearance.</p> <p>Is highly organised, time efficient and meticulous with constant attention to detail using well practiced methods to enhance the appearance of a variety of horses for show, competition or public appearance to positively contribute to the success or benefit of the horse, owner or establishment. *</p>

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	removal of a shoe in line with current legislation.	condition and balance, in a variety of horses and can demonstrate the correct procedure for removal of a shoe in line with current legislation.	Has a comprehensive knowledge of various types of remedial shoes and their use for different types of horses and foot conditions. They can also confidently discuss the foot and the effect of hoof balance on the horse's way of going and movement and the long-term impact on the welfare, comfort and soundness of the horse.
<b>Nutrition &amp; Fitness</b>	<p>Is unclear or omits details when discussing nutritional requirements and regimes or is unable to correctly plan appropriate diets for a variety of horses in various types of work.</p> <p>Lacks the ability to appropriately organise the feed room or lacks understanding of the organisational requirements and reasons for stock rotation and usage.</p> <p>Is unclear on fitness indicators or is unable to assess fitness levels in horses or correctly comment on current condition of a range of horses.</p>	<p>Can explain factors affecting feeding regimes and can appropriately plan and implement diets according to horses' nutritional requirements, including hydration, for a variety of horses at different levels of fitness and in various types of work.</p> <p>Is able to appropriately organise the feed room and take responsibility for stock rotation according to workplace requirements to minimise waste, maintain safety and appropriate use of stocks and supplies.</p>	<p>Displays a comprehensive understanding of nutritional requirements for a wide variety of horses and is able to make a positive contribution to improvements in diet plans for different horses, taking in to account recent industry developments in nutrition and feeding and relevant products on the market.</p> <p>Is highly organised, efficient and meticulous and is able to take responsibility for the storage of stocks and supplies and puts forward suggestions for possible improvements to the current working environment.</p>

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	<p>Displays insufficient awareness of different requirements in planning fitness programmes for a variety horses or lacks due regard for safety or welfare of the horse before, during or after work or performance. *</p>	<p>Can correctly assess current fitness levels and condition for different types of horses.</p> <p>Can appropriately plan fittening programmes, in preparation for a variety of levels of work in different disciplines, with due regard for the horses welfare throughout the programme, including before, during and after work or performance. *</p>	<p>Clearly demonstrates an excellent level of critical assessment and evaluation on fitness levels and condition for different types of horses.</p> <p>Critically analyses different requirements for planning fittening programmes potentially leading to enhanced performance.</p>
<b>Travelling Horses</b>	<p>Is not fully aware of factors to consider when coordinating the preparation for travelling horses.</p> <p>Is unclear on requirements when planning transportation of horses or displays a lack of awareness of current guidelines, documentation requirements or procedures.</p> <p>Lacks confidence or does not follow correct workplace procedure when preparing a horse for travel or when loading or unloading a horse or displays a lack of awareness of safety.</p>	<p>Efficiently and competently coordinates the preparation for travelling horses including supplies, equipment etc. with due consideration for destination, length and type of journey and number and type of horses etc. relevant to the workplace.</p> <p>Correctly and effectively plans the transportation of horses by road taking into account current guidelines, documentation requirements and procedures.</p> <p>Confidently and efficiently prepares a horse for transport, loads and unloads</p>	<p>Is highly organised and proactive with constant attention to detail when coordinating the preparation for travelling horses including extensive knowledge of different requirements for a variety of types of journey relevant to the workplace.</p> <p>Makes accurate and reliable judgements with a comprehensive knowledge of current guidelines and documentations and understanding of potential complications or incidents when planning transportation for horses.</p>

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	<p>Is unaware of safety or lacks empathy or due regard for horse welfare when supervising horses during and after transportation. *</p>	<p>safely following current health and safety protocol and workplace procedure.</p> <p>Safely and effectively supervises and cares for horses during and after transportation with empathy and due regard for horse welfare. *</p>	<p>Is capable of combining and adapting a range of techniques and adhering to workplace procedure when dealing with inexperienced or difficult loaders, demonstrating excellent leadership and communication skills to ensure a positive outcome, including the safety and welfare of the horse, themselves and others.</p> <p>Displays constant attention to detail recognising, preventing and minimising factors that could adversely affect the horses during or after transportation and so positively contributing to horses' comfort and welfare during and after transportation. *</p>
<p><b>Non-Ridden Exercise</b></p>	<p>Is unable to prepare for or lacks confidence or control when lunging a horse for exercise.</p> <p>Is unaware or unable to correctly recognise the horses' way of going.</p>	<p>Correctly prepares for and confidently lunges a horse for exercise demonstrating control and understanding of the horses' way of going using various types of equipment safely and appropriately according to workplace policy.</p>	<p>Confidently provides non-ridden exercise, demonstrating improvement in the horses' way of going and makes suggestions for the most appropriate methods and equipment to use, to enhance the long-term training and improvement of the horse.</p>

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	<p>Has inadequate knowledge of different equipment used for lunging.</p> <p>Is unsafe or does not follow workplace policy</p>	<p>Confidently discusses the benefits and use of different types of non-ridden exercise including long-reining.</p>	
<p><b>Fail: apprentices will fail where they do not meet all the pass criteria</b></p>			

## Grading Descriptors End-point Assessment Method 2: Professional Discussion Informed by Portfolio

KSBs	FAIL	PASS	DISTINCTION
	<p>The Apprentice will be deemed to have Failed the Professional discussion if they do not provide evidence to meet all the Knowledge, Skills and Behaviour requirements set out for the Professional Discussion informed by the Portfolio in Annex 1, or if they display one or more of the criteria below:</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>The Apprentice:</b></p>	<p>The Apprentice will be deemed to have passed the Professional Discussion if they provide evidence to meet all the Knowledge, Skills and Behaviour requirements set out for the Professional Discussion informed by the Portfolio in Annex 1 and all of the criteria below:</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>The Apprentice:</b></p>	<p>The Apprentice will be deemed to have achieved a Distinction if they provide evidence to meet all the Knowledge, Skills and Behaviour requirements set out for the Professional Discussion informed by the Portfolio in Annex 1, the pass criteria and also the additional criteria below:</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>The Apprentice:</b></p>
	<p>Lacks breadth of knowledge and/or accuracy.</p> <p>Is unable to give complete explanations of concepts associated with horse management.</p> <p>Shows incorrect use of industry-specific terminology.</p> <p>Shows misunderstanding, gives illogical answers or guesses.</p>	<p>Gives logical explanations and shows a comprehensive understanding of principles of horsemanship.</p> <p>Shows correct use of industry-specific terminology.</p> <p>Communicates information logically and is able to respond to any questions accurately showing reasonable breadth of knowledge.</p>	<p>Consistently speaks confidently and demonstrates understanding of the different concepts or approaches associated within their role as a Senior Equine Groom.</p> <p>Consistently gives clear, concise and logical explanations that show full comprehension of the theories and reasoning behind decisions taken showing the ability to apply correct procedures in all situations.</p>

	Shows incorrect or poor understanding of key practices and principles within the industry.	Is able to provide answers that are factually correct and adequately tailored to the area under discussion with minimal prompting.	Confidently discusses ways in which they have positively contributed to the effective working of the establishment.
	Fails to demonstrate the communication skills required.	Offers responses providing evidence of experience, knowledge and understanding.  Confidently discusses their experience of organising, supervising, monitoring and supporting others.  Conducts themselves in a professional manner and is able to communicate effectively showing respect throughout.	
<b>Fail: apprentices will fail where they do not meet all the pass criteria</b>			

### Grading Descriptors – Senior Equine Groom Routes

	<b>FAIL</b>	<b>PASS</b>	<b>DISTINCTION</b>
	The apprentice will be deemed to have failed the Practical Observation if they do not provide evidence to meet all the Knowledge, Skills and Behaviour requirements set out for the Practical Observation in	The apprentice will be deemed to have Passed the Practical Observation if they provide evidence to meet all the Knowledge, Skills and Behaviour requirements set out for the Practical Observation in Appendix B and meet all of the criteria below: -	The apprentice will be deemed to have achieved a Distinction if they provide evidence to meet all the Knowledge, Skills and Behaviour requirements set out for the Practical Observation in Appendix B,

	Appendix B, or if they display one or more of the criteria below: -  <b>The Apprentice:</b>	<b>The Apprentice:</b>	the pass criteria and also the additional criteria below: -  <b>The Apprentice:</b>
<b>Breeding</b>	<p>Does not use or know the correct terminology, paperwork, pedigree knowledge and hygiene practices within regular stud work.</p> <p>Is unable to effectively assist with recording breeding information as appropriate.</p> <p>Lacks confidence and is unable to follow teasing practices and make recommendations on subsequent actions.</p> <p>Is unable to provide practical, safe assistance with the preparation for coverings.</p> <p>Is unable to effectively prepare a foaling environment and assist during normal foaling, include examination of the placenta. Does</p>	<p>Uses correct terminology, paperwork, pedigree knowledge and hygiene practices within regular stud work.</p> <p>Is able to efficiently assist with the recording of breeding information as appropriate.</p> <p>Is able to confidently tease and make recommendations on subsequent actions. Can efficiently assist with the preparation for coverings.</p> <p>Efficiently prepares a foaling environment and is able to assist during normal foaling, to include examination of the placenta. Is able to recognise non-normal foaling events and the actions to be taken. *</p> <p>Has knowledge of some foaling associated difficulties and the necessary actions to be taken. *</p>	<p>Is highly efficient and proactive in using correct terminology, paperwork, pedigree knowledge and hygiene practices within regular stud work.</p> <p>Is meticulous in assisting with recording breeding information as appropriate. Is highly organised and prepared when overseeing the teasing process and makes recommendations on subsequent actions.</p> <p>Can confidently organise the preparation for coverings and discuss in detail the processes to be followed and action to be taken, if all does not go to plan. Is efficient, proactive and meticulous in preparing a foaling environment and provides positive and constructive assistance during normal foaling, to include examination of the placenta. *</p>



	<p>not recognise non-normal foaling events and the actions to be taken. *</p> <p>Has little knowledge and has not researched foaling-associated difficulties. *</p> <p>Is unable to manage, monitor or maintain routine care, well-being or handling of breeding and youngstock. *</p> <p>Lacks knowledge and skills to assist with successful weaning processes and implement fostering programmes and care of orphan foals and has not studied the subject. *</p> <p>Lacks confidence when dealing with young horses and fails to follow correct and safe working practices.</p> <p>Is unable to accurately monitor, maintain and manage the health and</p>	<p>Is able to confidently manage, monitor and maintain routine care, well-being and handling of breeding and youngstock.</p> <p>Assists with successful weaning processes and implement fostering programmes and care of orphan foals. *</p> <p>Is able to confidently monitor, maintain and manage the health and well-being of breeding and youngstock.</p> <p>Presents a male horse correctly for inspection.</p> <p>Is able to communicate well with colleagues with regard to day-to-day activities.</p> <p>Has a good knowledge of safe working practices both for self and colleagues when working with mares, stallions and youngstock.</p>	<p>Is able to confidently discuss non-normal foaling events and the actions to be taken. *</p> <p>Is organised, efficient and structured in the management, monitoring and maintenance of routine care, well-being and handling of breeding and youngstock.</p> <p>Is confident and ordered in planning the successful weaning processes and in implementing fostering programmes and care of orphan foals.</p> <p>Is organised, communicative and confident when monitoring, maintaining and managing the health and well-being of breeding and youngstock.</p> <p>Is proactive and meticulous in the correct preparation and presentation of a male horse for inspection.</p> <p>Demonstrates excellent communication and leadership skills to keep other colleagues aware of day-to-day activities.</p>
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	<p>well-being of breeding and youngstock.</p> <p>Is unable to present a male horse correctly for inspection.</p> <p>Lacks confidence with communicating with colleagues about day-today activities.</p> <p>Fails to follow safe working practices both for self and colleagues when working with mares, stallions and youngstock.</p>		<p>Leads and implements excellent safe working practices both for self and colleagues when working with mares, stallions and youngstock.</p>
<b>Driving</b>	<p>Is unable to efficiently prepare a turnout for exercise or competition or is unable to correctly harness up and put to with an assistant, a pair turnout.</p> <p>Is unable to confidently drive a single turnout in a training area or on the highway demonstrating unsafe rein handling or whip use. Is unclear or unable to school the turnout in basic correct way of going.</p>	<p>Can efficiently prepare a turnout for exercise and competition. Harness up and put to with an assistant, a pair turnout.</p> <p>Is able to confidently drive a single turnout in a training area and on the highway, demonstrating safe rein handling and whip use. School the turnout in basic correct way of going.</p> <p>Is able to exercise horses/ponies in a non driving environment, including being able to</p>	<p>Is highly organised, time efficient and meticulous with constant attention to detail, using well practiced methods and makes relevant adjustments to fit of harness when harnessing up and putting to a pair turnout.</p> <p>Shows a consistent rapport and harmony with a variety of horses in all situations, displaying extensive knowledge and practical experience when driving, selecting appropriate exercises to enhance</p>

	<p>Is unable to appropriately exercise horses/ponies in a non driving environment, including being unable to appropriately lunge or long rein in an enclosed area to improve the horse or to maintain and embed the horse in correct way of going, using a variety of equipment.</p> <p>Is unable to prepare appropriate equipment lists for shows or events for drivers, horses, carriages or portable stabling.</p> <p>Is unable to correctly discuss or initiate methods of loading or transportation of equipment.</p> <p>Displays insufficient evidence of designing, coordinating or reviewing a fittening or feeding programme for competition turnout. *</p>	<p>lunge or long rein in an enclosed area to improve the horse and to maintain and embed the horse in correct way of going, using a variety of equipment.</p> <p>Can prepare comprehensive equipment lists for shows and events for drivers, horses, carriages and portable stabling.</p> <p>Can discuss and initiate methods of loading and transportation of equipment.</p> <p>Can design, coordinate and review a fittening and feeding programme for competition turnout including physiotherapy where necessary. *</p> <p>Is able to evaluate the use of specialist equipment in the fittening and training of driving horses.</p>	<p>the horses' way of going or training, while being able to follow instruction and accept guidance or criticism.</p> <p>Is highly organised and meticulous when preparing equipment lists and has extensive knowledge of the range of stabling found at different venues and appropriate biosecurity measures to be taken. The Apprentice is able to check all equipment and organise relevant repairs, displaying a constant attention to detail.</p> <p>Is able to take full responsibility for loading and securing all equipment to industry standard.</p>
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	Is unable to evaluate the use of specialist equipment in the fittening or training of driving horses.		
<b>Racing</b>	<p>Lacks confidence and ability handling Thoroughbred racehorses in and out of full training including young horses and those with training problems.</p> <p>Is unable to effectively and positively contribute to the early education and effective training of the horse to prepare for, and improve racecourse performance. *</p> <p>Is unable to adequately assist in introducing young horses to equipment and tack.</p> <p>Fails to comply with all industry regulatory requirements at the races or sales. *</p> <p>Is unable to adequately prepare horses at the races or assist with saddling up and the parade ring</p>	<p>Is able to confidently handle Thoroughbred racehorses in and out of full training, including young horses and those with training problems.</p> <p>Can positively contribute to the early education and effective training of the horse to prepare for, and improve racecourse performance. *</p> <p>Appropriately assists in introducing young horses to equipment and tack.</p> <p>Ensures compliance with all industry regulatory requirements at the races or sales. *</p> <p>Is able to prepare horses at the race and assist with saddling up and the parade ring procedures. *</p>	<p>Consistently handles Thoroughbred racehorses in and out of full training including young horses and those with training problems in a highly efficient manner, confidently, with assurance and able to act swiftly when horses react in different ways.</p> <p>Is proactive and empathetic when assisting in introducing young horses to equipment and tack. *</p> <p>Can confidently discuss rules, regulations and requirements for racing relevant to the workplace.</p> <p>Is proactive and meticulous in the preparation of horses at the race and assisting with saddling up and the parade ring procedures. *</p>

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	procedures in line with industry timescales or correct procedures. *		
<b>In addition to the above specialist Racing knowledge and skills, Senior Equine Groom Apprentices taking the Racing Route will be required to select one of two racing pathways as follows: -</b>			
<b>i) Racing Exercise Groom</b>			
	<p>Is unable to clean and prepare equipment or horses for work or exercise to the appropriate standard or within the allocated time.</p> <p>Is unable to select or fit appropriate equipment for work or exercise.</p> <p>Is unable to maintain an established position or lacks security when riding.</p> <p>Is unable to safely or confidently ride (alone or in a group) horses of varying levels of fitness or is unclear on the type of work needed to maintain fitness. *</p>	<p>Can confidently demonstrate the riding of racehorses effectively to improve performance including riding at speed, on all types of surface or any type of horse, including young horses, unfit and race fit horses and those with training problems.</p> <p>Is able to ride alone, in groups and in a string.</p> <p>Is able to ride fast work and school horses through the stalls or over obstacles. *</p> <p>Provides accurate feedback on horse's performance.</p> <p>Maintains own health and fitness to adhere to industry weight requirements and physical demands of riding for up to six hours a day.</p>	<p>Is highly organised, time efficient and meticulous with constant attention to detail, using well practiced methods to prepare horses for exercise and/or work.</p> <p>Shows a consistent rapport and harmony with a variety of horses in all situations, displaying extensive knowledge and practical experience when selecting and riding appropriate exercises to enhance the horses' way of going. *</p> <p>Applies clear, refined, coordinated aids, while being able to follow instruction and accept guidance or criticism.</p> <p>Is able to confidently discuss the current level of training and fitness, critically evaluate the horse's way of going and suggest ways of enhancing and furthering</p>

	<p>Is unable to school a variety of horses or lacks coordination and refinement of aids. *</p> <p>Displays a lack of understanding of the horse's way of going or is unable to develop the horse appropriately or according to instruction.</p> <p>Lacks confidence, control, balance or security when riding fast work and schooling horses through the stalls or over obstacles. *</p> <p>Is unable to provide clear and accurate feedback on a horse's performance after exercise.</p> <p>Does not maintain own health and fitness to adhere to industry weight requirements and physical demands of riding for up to six hours a day.</p>		<p>the horse's training in the short and long term.</p> <p>Can confidently discuss rules, regulations and requirements for racing relevant to the workplace.</p> <p>Always rides/works in a way to promote horse's welfare when riding, helping to advise or educate others. *</p> <p>Demonstrates the value of maintaining a balanced diet and fitness regime to meet the physical demands of riding for up to six hours a day.</p>
<b>ii) Racing Yard Based Groom</b>			
	<p>Is unable to clean and prepare equipment or horses for work or exercise within the allocated time.</p>	<p>Is able to contribute to the design, implementation and modification of individual training programmes for racehorses.</p>	<p>Is highly organised, time efficient and meticulous with constant attention to methods when contributing to the design,</p>

	<p>Is unable to select or fit appropriate equipment for work or exercise.</p> <p>Is unable to adequately monitor the choice, cost, quantity or quality of supplies or is unable to maintain an effective working relationship with suppliers.</p> <p>Is unable to appropriately implement, record or review a programme for recovery, recuperation or rehabilitation or lacks due regard for safety or welfare of the horse. *</p> <p>Is unable to adequately or appropriately design, review work or fitness programmes or is unable to appropriately implement non-ridden exercise regimes or lacks due regard for safety or welfare of the horse. *</p>	<p>Is able to appropriately assist with preparing a horse to race fitness, through careful consideration of correct work, feeding and healthcare.</p> <p>Is able to accurately assess a horse's current condition, fitness and educational needs prior to planning an appropriate work programme.</p> <p>Assists with the implementation of training programmes. *</p> <p>Supervises the effective organisation and maintenance of facilities and resources used to train horses in the commercial racing premises. *</p>	<p>implementation and modification of training programmes for racehorses.</p> <p>Can demonstrate effectively and efficiently how to assist with preparing a horse to race fitness through careful consideration of correct work, feeding and healthcare. *</p> <p>Is proactive and highly understanding of recovery, recuperation and rehabilitation for a wide variety of horses and their associated injuries or problems and can confidently discuss the role of a range of health care professionals within the recovery programme. *</p>
<b>Riding</b>	Is unable to clean and prepare equipment or horses for work or competition to the appropriate	Can demonstrate how to clean and prepare equipment for work and competition to the	Is highly organised, time efficient and meticulous, with constant attention to detail, using well practiced methods to

	<p>standard or within the allocated time.</p> <p>Is unable to select or fit appropriate equipment for work or competition.</p> <p>Is unable to maintain an established position or lacks security when riding with or without stirrups.</p> <p>Is unable to safely or confidently ride horses of varying levels of fitness or is unclear on the type of work needed to maintain fitness.</p> <p>Is unable to school a variety of horses or lacks coordination and refinement of aids. Displays a lack of understanding of the horses' way of going or is unable to develop the horse appropriately or according to instruction.</p> <p>Is unable to discuss, select or ride appropriate exercises to improve or develop the horses work or is</p>	<p>appropriate standard within the allocated time.</p> <p>Can efficiently and confidently prepare horses for work and competition including selecting and fitting correct discipline specific saddlery and equipment within the allocated time.</p> <p>Can ride a variety of horses for exercise in all paces with and without stirrups maintaining an established position, showing balance, independence and a supple seat.</p> <p>Is able to safely and confidently ride horses of varying levels of fitness and training for exercise, understanding the type of work needed to maintain fitness.</p> <p>Is able to school a variety of fit horses with refined and coordinated aids showing feel, respect and an understanding of the horse's way of going to develop the horse appropriately and according to instruction.</p>	<p>enhance the appearance of the horse and appropriate equipment in preparation for work or competition, that could potentially contribute to the success or benefit of the horse, owner or establishment.</p> <p>Shows a consistent rapport and harmony with a variety of horses in all situations, displaying extensive knowledge and practical experience when selecting and riding appropriate exercises to enhance the horses' way of going or training, applying clear, refined, coordinated aids, while being able to follow instruction and accept guidance or criticism.</p> <p>Is able to confidently discuss the current level of training and fitness, critically evaluate the horse's way of going and suggest ways of enhancing and furthering the horse's training in the short and long-term.</p>
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	<p>unclear on the understanding of the principles of training.</p> <p>Lacks confidence, control, balance or security when working over ground poles, show jumps or cross-country fences where applicable.</p> <p>Is unable to adequately or appropriately design, implement or review work or fitness programmes or lacks due regard for safety or welfare of the horse before, during or after work or performance. *</p>	<p>Is able to discuss, select and ride appropriate exercises according to the principles of training, including transitions, variation of pace and lateral movements to improve and develop the horse's work.</p> <p>Is able to ride a variety of exercises over ground poles at canter showing confidence and control, in a balanced and secure position</p> <p>And where practical,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ride a course of 8 show jump fences ranging in height from 85cm to a maximum 1m (a minimum of 2 fences at 1m); to include a double, related distance, two changes of direction and 3 spread fences showing confidence and control, in a balanced and secure position</li> <li>• And ride a course of 8 varied cross country fences up to a height of 90cm showing confidence and control, in a balanced and secure position.</li> </ul>	<p>Can confidently discuss rules, regulations and requirements for show or competition relevant to the workplace.</p> <p>Has a clear understanding of distances and stride lengths used when working with ground poles and over fences both when schooling or in preparation for, or when competing. Is able to work the horse in the most appropriate canter for the discipline i.e. show jumping or cross country and discuss the quality of the canter in relation to jumping and the level the horse is working at.</p> <p>Always rides/works in a way to promote horse's welfare when riding, helping to advise or educate others.</p>
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		<p>Can design, implement and review appropriate fittening programmes in preparation for a variety of levels of work in different disciplines, with due regard for the horses' welfare throughout the programme, including before, during and after work or performance. *</p>	
<p><b>Non-Riding</b></p>	<p>Is unable to clean or prepare equipment or horses for work or competition to the appropriate standard or within the allocated time.</p> <p>Is unable to select or fit appropriate equipment for work or competition.</p> <p>Lacks the ability to effectively coordinate or supervise maintenance programmes for the establishment. *</p> <p>Is unable to adequately monitor the choice, cost, quantity or quality of supplies or is unable to maintain an</p>	<p>Can demonstrate how to clean and prepare equipment for work and competition to the appropriate standard within the allocated time.</p> <p>Can efficiently and confidently prepare horses for work and competition, including selecting and fitting correct discipline specific saddlery and equipment within the allocated time.</p> <p>Is able to effectively recognise, coordinate and supervise maintenance programmes for the establishment. *</p> <p>Can responsibly, professionally and effectively promote the business through</p>	<p>Is highly organised, time efficient and meticulous with constant attention to detail, using well practiced methods to enhance the appearance of the horse and appropriate equipment in preparation for work or competition, that could positively contribute to the success or benefit of the horse, owner or establishment.</p> <p>Is able to identify and recognise changing priorities and limiting factors that could affect the implementation of short and long-term maintenance programmes, to positively benefit and improve the establishment. *</p> <p>Demonstrates the ability to build relationships and negotiate with suppliers</p>

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	<p>effective working relationship with suppliers.</p> <p>Lacks professionalism, uses inappropriate content or is ineffective when promoting the business. *</p> <p>Is unable to effectively plan, organise or implement events, shows or activities that are appropriate for the business. *</p> <p>Is unable to effectively deliver, monitor, review or improve customer care or satisfaction.</p> <p>Is unsure of, or inefficient when carrying out office duties.</p> <p>Is unable to appropriately implement, record or review a programme for recovery, recuperation or rehabilitation or lacks due regard for safety or welfare of the horse.</p>	<p>word of mouth, advertising, social media and the Internet. *</p> <p>Is able to effectively monitor the choice, cost, quantity and quality of supplies relative to the establishment and maintain an effective working relationship with suppliers.</p> <p>Can effectively plan, organise and implement a variety of events/ shows or activities appropriate to the establishment, whilst constantly looking for ways to improve and appropriately diversify the business. *</p> <p>Is able to effectively deliver, monitor, review and improve customer care and satisfaction, demonstrating the ability to communicate appropriately and respectfully to ensure positive customer experience.</p> <p>Can confidently and efficiently carry out office duties including using IT for budgets and recordkeeping relevant to the workplace.</p> <p>Can appropriately implement, record and review a programme for recovery,</p>	<p>to maintain quality of supplies, whilst improving on price but not limiting choice.</p> <p>Shows personal initiative and has a clear and comprehensive short and long-term plan to positively improve or appropriately diversify the business including effective business promotion, advertising strategy and event planning. *</p> <p>Is able to listen to and understand challenging customers and identify and select appropriate responses, to develop customer relationships and deliver solutions to meet customer needs and expectations when under pressure, whilst adhering to workplace protocol.</p> <p>Is proactive and highly organised and is able to prioritise office duties and identify and make suggestions for improvements to current procedures, recognising the immediate and longterm positive or negative impact and benefits to the wider business.</p>
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	<p>Is unable to adequately or appropriately design, review work or fitness programmes or is unable to appropriately implement non-ridden exercise regimes or lacks due regard for safety or welfare of the horse. *</p> <p>Is unable to prepare for or lacks confidence when lunging a horse for exercise or is unsafe or does not follow workplace policy.</p>	<p>recuperation or rehabilitation with due regard for the horse’s welfare throughout the programme. *</p> <p>Is able to effectively design and review work and fitness programmes and implement non-ridden exercise regimes according to workplace procedures with due regard for horse welfare. *</p> <p>Correctly prepares for and confidently long-reins a horse for exercise demonstrating control and understanding of the horse’s way of going using appropriate equipment according to workplace policy.</p>	<p>Displays a comprehensive understanding of recovery, recuperation and rehabilitation for a wide variety of horses and their associated injuries or problems and can confidently discuss the role of a range of health- care professionals within the recovery programme.</p>
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### End-point Assessment Method 3: Knowledge Test

#### Grading

Test mark will determine whether apprentice achieved fail, pass, or distinction grading boundaries

The following grade boundaries apply to the knowledge test:

A mark out of 70 will be awarded for the Knowledge Test. The Apprentice must achieve a minimum pass mark of 70% in order to proceed to the Practical Observation, Professional Discussion informed by the Portfolio. A mark of 90% or above will result in a distinction grade.

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