

Creedons College
Programme Descriptor for
Practical Dog Management
Leading to
Level 6 QQI Minor Award in Work Practice
Programme Brief 6N1947

Certification

Awarding Body: QQI
Level: Level 6
Module Title: Practical Dog Management
Module Code: 6N1947
Programme Leader: Nanci Creedon M.Sc.
Programme Tutor: Nanci Creedon M.Sc.

Introduction

Creedons College is delighted to offer the Practical Dog Management programme leading to a Minor Award in Work Practice.

The aim of this programme is to provide learners with the skills, knowledge, competence and confidence to carry out dog care skills to a very high quality.

We aim to develop the learner's knowledge on the dog care industry, ability to work as part of a team and self-directed, communicate with employers, colleagues and clients, understand the legislation, regulations and best practice within the dog daycare industry, gain an understanding of basic business terminology, and provide a thorough education on the policies and procedures involved in working in a dog care business.

Learners will then receive hands on training on dog daycare operations prior to developing their skills during work placement.

Condition of Participation

This programme requires that all learners participate in a two month work placement at a dog daycare / dog handling registered business. This will be a full time placement, so learners must have the ability to commit fully to the placement.

This programme may be most suitable to applicants already working in the dog care industry, or applicants who are currently out of work or available during working hours.

Programme Profile

Programme Units

Unit 1 Business Characteristics

Unit 2 Issues, Challenges and Trends in the Dog Daycare Industry - Problem Prevention and Problem Solutions

Unit 3 Legal Obligations of a Dog Daycare Centre

Unit 4 Dog Daycare Policy Design, Development, Implementation and Review

Unit 5 Dog Daycare Procedures Design, Development, Implementation and Review

Unit 6 Communication Skills

Unit 7 Dog Daycare Operational Skills

Unit 8 Dog Daycare Work Placement

This programme has been designed to introduce learners to the realities of working in a dog daycare environment. It is designed to lead to a level 6 Minor Award (Work Practice 6N1947).

Dog daycare is a rapidly growing industry in Ireland, though currently there are no nationally accredited programmes available that focus on dog daycare operations.

The purpose of this programme is to provide learners with an opportunity to gain a Minor Award in this specialist subject matter, and provide a foundation qualification for a career in the dog daycare industry.

The learning objectives have been split into eight units, delivered over a 13-week period.

The programme will be delivered on a part-time basis over a three-month period, facilitating learners who wish to study and work full-time concurrently.

Learners on this programme will receive an intense introduction to the dog daycare industry and will quickly gain skills and knowledge that will build their ability to supervise and care for groups of dogs.

Career opportunities post-completion of the Practical Dog Management course include working as part of a team such as in a dog day-care, a working dogs programme, a dog walker, a kennel maid and more.

Successful completion of this programme will allow learners to transfer to other institutions providing a Major Award in Animal Science.

Learner Profile

- learners do not need prior learning specific to the dog training industry but must have achieved a level 5 qualification or similar
- learners must be computer literate, be proficient in the English language and comply with the Equipped to Participate criteria
- learners should be passionate about providing excellent care to pet dogs
- learners should have ambitions to pursue a career working with dogs

Programme Objectives

The objectives of this programme are to provide the learner with the ability to:

- apply theoretical business concepts in the evaluation of the dog daycare work placement organisation
- assess issues, challenges and trends facing the dog daycare organisation
- evaluate the work placement organisations' internal and external policies and procedures
- develop communication skills in multiple forums
- acquire a range of skills to complete a multitude of tasks relevant to working in a dog daycare business, including allocating resources, problem-solving, demonstrating good judgement working as part of a team or on own initiative
- research legislation and regulations relative to the dog daycare industry
- develop self-reflective learning skills

To achieve the learning outcomes the programme will be regularly reviewed, learner and tutor feedback gathered and analysed, and modifications made as new scientific research highlights new information.

Entry Criteria

To access this programme learners should have reached the standards of knowledge, skill and competence associated with the preceding level of the National Framework of Qualifications.

This may have been achieved through a formal qualification or through relevant life and work experience. Formal qualifications do not have to be animal related, though if requesting entry without the relevant prior formal qualifications applicants will be assessed on their ability to successfully take this course based on their prior learning through work experience or life experience.

Learners will be provided with an application form to assess their suitability for the programme as well as an 'Equipped to Participate' statement. The 'Equipped to Participate' statement will outline the skills, knowledge, and competence the learner would be expected to have prior to enrolling on the programme. It will provide a basis from which learners can determine if they will be able to successfully participate in the programme.

Programme Duration

This programme will be delivered part-time over a three month period. Learners are expected to commit 150 hours to the programme over the three month period; an average of 12 hours per week, including classroom and work placement time.

Delivery Mode

The Practical Dog Management programme will be delivered through centre based learning.

Learners will be expected to carry out further at-home study and at-home assessments.

Delivery Methodologies

- Classroom based learning will include lectures, role play, group discussions, and Q & A sessions
- Practical training will include demonstrations, instructional practical sessions, self-directed practical sessions and work placement
- Self-directed learning will be driven through at-home project assignments, and critically evaluating the learners' own performance during skills assessment

Resources

- Facilities – classroom, restrooms, canteen, food preparation facilities, outdoor area for dog elimination
- Equipment –Dog crates, dog treats and a fully functioning dog daycare arena including fenced areas, dog toys, and dog daycare cleaning products, mops, hoover, and bins
- Handouts
- Projector and screen
- White board
- Flip chart and Markers
- Laptop
- Internet access
- Access to dogs

Programme Structure

Programme content is delivered over two initial weekend sessions, 10 days' work placement, and one final weekend session.

Unit delivery is broken into smaller sessions over the initial two weekends to allow for a natural delivery of the information, building as the learners' ability builds.

Attendance at all sessions is compulsory to successfully complete the programme.

Weekend 1

Session 1

Morning	Unit 1	Business Characteristics				
Morning	Unit 2	Issues, Challenges and Trends in the Dog Daycare				
	Industry -	Problem Prevention and Problem Solutions				
Afternoon	Unit 3	Legal Obligations of a Dog Daycare Centre				
Evening	Unit 4	Dog	Daycare	Policy	Design,	Development,
		Implementation and Review				

Session 2

Morning	Unit 5	Dog	Daycare	Procedures	Design,	Development,
		Implementation and Review				
Afternoon	Unit 6	Communication Skills				
Evening	Unit 7	Dog Daycare Operational Skills - Theory				

Weekend 2

Session 3

Morning	Unit 6	Canine Communication Interpretation Skills				
Evening	Unit 7	Dog	Daycare	Operational	Skills	– Practical
		Demonstrations				

Session 4

Morning	Unit 7	Dog Daycare Operational Skills – Practical Application				
Evening	Unit 8	Dog	Daycare	Work Placement	– Preparation	Lecture and
		Assessment Q & A				

Two Months Work Placement

Unit 7&8 Work Placement – Developing Dog Daycare Operational Skills and carrying out Work Placement tasks.

Weekend 3

Session 5

Morning Unit 1-6 Recap and reflection on initial learning with newly acquired experience.

Afternoon Unit 7 Dog daycare operational skills directed by tutor

Session 6

Morning Unit 7 Dog daycare operational skills supervised by tutor

Afternoon Unit 7 Dog daycare operational skills, Learner led demonstration

Assessment overview

Learner assessments will comprise of three assignments of different techniques

Assessment Method	Weighting
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Learner Record	60%
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Portfolio / Collection of Work	40%
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Grading	Pass	50-64%
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	Merit	65-79%
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	Distinction	80-100%
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Assessment Schedule

The learner record and Portfolio assessment briefs will be distributed during the first weekend and must be submitted one week after the final classroom weekend.

Programme Review Schedule

This programme will be reviewed upon completion of each delivery of the programme and will also be reviewed annually.

Access Transfer and Progression

There are no formal transfer arrangements in place. However, successful completion of this programme will allow the learner to transfer to a QQI major award provider offering programmes with this minor award as a component.

Learner Supports

The College ensures that the learning environment provides access to pastoral care supports. While the College currently cannot facilitate in-house counselling, or supports, all staff and learners are provided with a database where they can access support, and Creedons College designates appropriate personnel as a point of contact for learners who feel that they need to access pastoral care. These personnel will also become point of contact to assist learners with non-academic support supplementary to teaching material, such as transport, accommodation and local resource information.

Whilst the College only offers programmes in English, and does not provide programmes in relation to learning a new language, international learners (proficient in the use of the English language) are welcomed by the College. Where necessary, the College will adhere to The Code of Practice for Provision of Education and Training to International Learners.

Specific Validation Requirements

None.

Protection for Enrolled Learners

This Programme is delivered in a 3 month period. Creedons College will fully refund all learners should the programme be cancelled pre-completion.

Progression to further Studies

This course leads to a level 6 award on the National Framework of Qualifications.

Students who successfully complete this programme may use this Level 6 credit towards completing a Major QQI award in Animal Science 6M5153.

Expected learner numbers per mode of delivery per academic or calendar year

This programme will take a maximum of 10 learners per module and no more than two intakes annually for the first year of provision.

Staffing resources

Creedons College will provide the following staff to assure the quality of delivery of the programme.

College Manager, College Administrator, Programme Leader, Programme Tutors, internal verifier and external authenticator.

Learning Outcomes and Assessment Technique

Upon successful completion of this programme, learners should be able to:

(This learning outcome will be measured in one or multiple of the following assessment techniques, Learner Record (LR), Collection of Work (COW)

Evaluate the characteristics of the dog daycare workplace, to include its status whether public, private, voluntary or other, size, organisational structure, mission and values, the workplace culture and management practices (LR)

1. Assess internal and external issues, challenges and trends affecting the dog daycare workplace, to include as appropriate, local, national, global, team based and cultural issues, and a personal response to the issues or challenges identified (LR)
2. Research the specific legislation and regulations relevant to the dog daycare place of work including rights and responsibilities in relation to health, safety and welfare at work, equality, employment and specific work practices (LR)
3. Evaluate the dog daycare organisation's internal and external policies and procedures ensuring appropriateness to current legislation and regulations (LR)
4. Execute a range of vocationally specific tasks and activities during a minimum 2 month Practical Dog Management placement (COW)
5. Apply effective communication skills in communicating with colleagues, staff and external individuals or groups as required working autonomously or in a supervisory capacity (LR)
6. Allocate resources to analyse and solve routine and non-routine problems arising in the dog daycare workplace (COW)
7. Show judgement and initiative while working autonomously and/or in a supervisory capacity, taking responsibility for own work and the work of others and allocating resources as required (COW)

8. Contribute positively to the achievement of objectives and/or targets in the workplace working autonomously and/or with responsibility for the work of others (COW)
9. Execute work practice duties and responsibilities in a professional manner ensuring respect and safety of colleagues and staff (COW)
10. Reflect on personal and professional work practices, to include feedback from senior staff or mentors and colleagues or team workers on individual performance, achievements, strengths and challenges (LR)
11. Review at own learning and progress and that of others within the workplace or team, to include identification of personal and professional skills, abilities and strengths, areas for development and opportunities for learning and career development within the dog daycare industry (LR)

Equipped to Participate Statement

Specific entry requirements are listed on the application form for each programme.

Learners entering programmes leading to awards at Level 6 must be able to read, draft, prepare and understand complex information.

150 hours of learning effort are required for a QQI Level 6 module. This is based on an estimation of the average time it takes a learner to achieve outcomes. This learning effort includes time for reading, study, skills demonstrations, written assignments, reflection and online research.

Learners must be capable of studying on their own initiative as well as part of a team.

Learners must be fluent in English.

A basic working knowledge of computers and access to a computer with internet access is required.

Learners should have problem solving skills, the ability to work independently and as part of different groups, and be able to accept personal responsibility for the quality of outcome.

Due to the physical element of the training and assessments on this programme, learners must be physically capable and comfortable working on their feet for long periods of time.

As much of this course includes hands on work with dogs of all ages and breeds, learners must be comfortable in the presence of multiple dogs and comfortable physically handling large, strong dogs.

Classroom facilities are on the first floor, and are only accessible by stairs.

Please contact info@creedonscollege.ie to discuss how we can help you achieve your goals.

To Apply

Contact info@creedonscollege.ie to register your interest in this programme.