



Curriculum Policy

Title	Curriculum Policy
Summary	This policy sets out New Leaf Triangle Education (NLT)'s curriculum and how this is implemented.
Purpose	To ensure that all stakeholders are aware of this policy and its application in relation to the NLT curriculum available for learners
Operational Date	01.07.25 Version 1.0 Written by Lorraine Squires Shaw (Director) Reviewed 04.11.25 (LSS)
Due to review	November 2027

New Leaf Triangle Education is an alternative education provision. We provide learning in an outdoor setting in a fun, stress-free and therapeutic way through activities such as horse riding, animal care and handling, forest school, woodworking, arts and crafts, and sports and games.

Our Mission:

To use the natural environment and animals, to help children, young people and adults to learn and combat personal challenges through fun and motivational activities.

At New Leaf Triangle Education, we use positive approaches including building on individuals' strengths and creating positive relationships and emotions, all of which promote happiness, wellbeing and self-belief.

Curriculum Aims and Objectives

New Leaf Triangle Education's prime focus is to support young people with engagement and the development of communication, interaction, confidence, self-esteem, regulation of own behaviour and emotions, independence and the development of positive relationships with staff, other learners and animals.

We aim to :

- ❑ Provide a nurturing and inclusive environment that fosters personal growth, happiness, and wellbeing
- ❑ Develop students' personal skills confidence and self-esteem through hands-on activities
- ❑ Promote British values, personal safety, and emotional intelligence
- ❑ Develop the knowledge, skills, and attributes to help students become well-rounded individuals, responsible citizens, and effective contributors to society
- ❑ Offer a range of land-based qualifications and Functional Maths and English qualifications
- ❑ Offer a range of in-house awards to develop personal, independence and vocational skills

Curriculum Structure

We offer a programme of education that can be delivered to suit learners of primary, secondary and post 16 age groups who need an alternative curriculum. Outdoor practical activities, including horse and animal interaction, Forest school and Green woodworking activities are used to engage and assist learners in gaining English, maths and life skills alongside gains in personal development

All students at NLT have 1:1 support and a personalised programme. They are assessed in areas of communication, social and emotional skills and set targets in these areas which are tracked throughout the programme by a RAG rated system. Students can also work on targets for Maths and English and vocational skills where applicable. All students have individual education/learning plans with targets directly linked to goals on Education, Health and Care Plans and also include targets set by schools or other professionals.

New Leaf Triangle Education offers the following qualifications and programmes:

Qualifications accredited through Open Awards and City and Guilds

Employability and Professional Development (Open Awards)

Entry level to level 1. Award or certificate.

This course is for learners looking to develop their employability skills such as writing a CV, job seeking, using ICT, job applications, team working, citizenship, interview skills, writing, time management and leadership skills.

- ❑ Entry level 1: Award 603/5583/9 Certificate 603/5584/0
- ❑ Entry level 2: Award 603/5585/2 Certificate 603/5586/4
- ❑ Entry level 3: Award 603/1605/6 Certificate 603/1613/5
- ❑ Level 1: Award 603/1615/9 Certificate 603/1616/0

Age restrictions - none

Animal Care (Open Awards)

Entry level to level 1. Award

The animal care awards provide a good foundation to those looking to develop their skills and knowledge, but who are not yet ready for the full level 1 or 2 certificate or diploma. There are a range of topics to choose from including handling, care, maintaining accommodation and feeding.

- ❑ Entry level 1: 603/6075/6
- ❑ Entry level 2: 603/6078/8
- ❑ Entry level 3: 603/6077/X
- ❑ Level 1: 603/6078/1

Age restrictions - none

Combined Animal and Horse care (working in land-based industries) (Open Awards)

Entry level to level 2. Diploma, certificate

This combined course enables learners to choose modules relating to their interests relating to a wide range of animal and horse care areas. Those wishing to pursue the full diploma at level 1 or 2 will gain a thorough understanding of animal care, health and husbandry through practical and theory work. This offers a platform to move on to further learning or employment in the sector.

- ❑ Level 1: Certificate 601/7917/X Diploma 603/3764/3
- ❑ Level 2 :Certificate 601/7917/X Diploma 603/3764/3

Age restrictions - 16+

Skills for Further Learning & Employment (Open Awards)

Entry level 2 to Level 2 Award, Certificate, Extended Certificate & Diploma

This course combines skills in animal care with mandatory & optional units on employability & personal development skills. This is an ideal course for learners looking to develop their employability & personal skills whilst following an interest in animal care. There are a range of units to choose from within both parts (personal development/employability and animal care) of the qualification. It is recommended by New Leaf Triangle that learners attend a variety of work experience placements as part of this course.

- 📄 Entry Level 2: Award 601/3553/0; Certificate 601/3554/2; Diploma 601/3593/1; Extended Certificate 603/3553/1
 - 📄 Entry Level 3: Award 601/3583/9; Certificate 601/3584/0; Diploma 601/3585/2; Extended Certificate 603/3554/3
 - 📄 Level 1: Award 601/3586/4; Certificate 601/3587/6; Diploma 601/3588/8; Extended Certificate 603/3555/5
 - 📄 Level 2: Award 601/3591/8; Certificate 601/3589/X; Diploma 601/3590/6; Extended Certificate 603/3556/7
- Age restrictions - none

Horse Care and Riding (City & Guilds)

Level 1 Award, Certificate or Diploma, Level 2. Diploma,

The horse care qualification offers a range of learning opportunities depending on the level chosen. Courses range from entry level to level 2 and can be accredited as awards, certificates or diplomas. The full level 2 diploma offers learners in depth learning, both practical and theoretical, on horse care, health, husbandry and riding. This offers a platform to move on to further learning or employment in the sector.

- 📄 Level 1: award 501/2283/6, certificate 501/2288/5, diploma (horse care) 501/2280/0, diploma (horse care & riding) 501/2280/0
 - 📄 Level 2: 502/1857/2
- Age restrictions - L1: 14+ L2: 16+

Forest school (introduction & assistants) (Open Awards)

Level 1-2 Awards

These awards are for individuals looking to pursue a career or voluntary work within a forests school setting. The level 1 is theoretical only and provides an introduction. The level 2 covers both practical and theoretical elements of forest school, enabling learners to become qualified forests school assistants.

Level 1 award: 601/1728/X

Level 2 award: 601/1795/3

Age Restrictions: L1 None, L2: 16+

New Leaf Triangle Education Programme: *Forge Your Future!*

This programme is a bespoke programme, created by New Leaf Triangle, tailored to an individual's needs. It is designed for young people aged 16+ looking for a career within the animal or equine industry. The programme has a focus on building employability

skills within a vocational setting with integrated work experience placements to allow students the chance to gain real-world work experience within the animal care or equine industries.

- ☐ The programme involves completing the Skills for Further Learning & Development qualification (see details above) at Level 2 alongside the assessment of social, communication and emotional wellbeing skills with individual targets tailored to meet EHCP outcomes reviewed each half term to aid students' development of these skills. The programme will also involve sourcing, applying for and attending a variety of work experience placements throughout the programme. These will be tailored to the individual's own career aspirations.

Overview of Open Awards and City and Guilds Courses				
Course Type:	Hours required per week:	If additional attendance is expected then please note that here (per week):	Length of course in years:	Qualification achieved:
Diploma (Animal care, horse care, further learning and employment)	At least 18	Study time at home usually required	1-2	Diploma
Certificate (as above)	At least 12	Study time at home sometimes required	1	Certificate
Award (as above - single/small number of units, including forest school)	At least 6	Study time at home not usually required (except for forest school awards)	Less than 1	Award(s)
Functional skills Maths and/English	At least 3	Study time at home optional	1 year per level.	Functional skills entry level 2 to level 2 (level 2 is equivalent to a GCSE)

British Horse Society (BHS) Programmes

Changing Lives Through Horses Programme

- ☐ The goal of this programme is to help young people develop vital life skills and rekindle their desire for education and training through equine-facilitated learning. It is to help

young people aged 5–25 who are at risk of disengagement from education or social exclusion. The programme includes two main frameworks:

- ❑ [Achievers Framework](#) for ages 5–11
- ❑ [Explorers Framework](#) for ages 11–25

Although participants can follow the framework that is most appropriate for them. Modules can be matched to the National Curriculum and can include both horse care and ridden activities.

- ❑ The programme is structured around developing six key life skills: communication, confidence, teamwork, building relationships, perseverance, and responsibility. The program is designed for individuals with additional needs, including those who are permanently excluded or at risk of exclusion, and provides a safe, nurturing environment.

Pony Stars Awards

- ❑ The Pony Stars programme is the British Horse Society's junior challenge awards scheme designed for children generally **under the age of 12** to learn about ponies, horse care, and riding in a fun, non-competitive environment. It aims to build knowledge, skills, confidence, and a lifelong passion for horses. It includes learning about looking after the environment and personal safety.

New Leaf Triangle In-House Awards

- ❑ **New Leaf Challenge Awards:** Bronze, Silver & Gold levels
Modules in Understanding British Values, Staying safe in relationships, Understanding emotions, Knowing how to keep yourself safe, 'Self-esteem, achievement and pride', Practical skills, Developing confidence, Communication, Functions maths, Functional English, Relationship building and teamwork, Care for the environment, Care for others, Problem solving, Career planning and Work experience & Becoming a leader

- ❑ **New Leaf Triangle Awards:**
Multiple certificates in the areas of Animal Care, Horse Care, Horticulture, Healthy Living and Independence Skills

Teaching and Learning Approaches

New Leaf Triangle is committed to teaching and learning that fosters positivity and inclusivity in a natural environment and includes:

- Positive Behaviour Support
- Therapeutic and Stress-Free Environment: utilizing positive approaches to build on individual strengths and promote happiness and wellbeing
- Hands-On Activities: incorporating outdoor education, animal handling, horse activities, forest school and other practical experiences to engage students and promote learning

- Personalized Support: providing tailored support to meet the diverse needs of students, including those with neurodiverse conditions, SEMH needs, and trauma or health needs

Assessment and Progress Tracking

Personalised Education/Learning Plans are provided for all learners – these are reviewed regularly to ensure students are meeting their goals and progressing towards any qualifications.

Regular Assessment - Assessment for learning is carried out in sessions, through half termly personal tutorials, focus meetings and half termly reports collated by key workers.

Inclusion and Accessibility

Inclusive Environment -we create a welcoming and inclusive environment that values diversity and promotes equality of opportunity

Reasonable Adjustments: we make reasonable adjustments to ensure all students can access and participate in the curriculum

Lorraine Squires Shaw

Executive Director (Quality)

I hereby sign to agree I have read and understood the above Curriculum Policy and agree to follow the procedures and guidance within it.

Staff name	Signature	date

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