



## Winterbourne Centre for Horticulture

### RHS Level 2 Certificate in Practical Horticulture

Costs: Course Fee £625, RHS Examination Fee: £98

28 Saturdays from 30 September 2017, from 10.30am-3pm

#### Course summary

This course is ideal for the keen amateur gardener and for those wishing to work in professional horticulture in a variety of roles. It is an in-depth practical course designed for those that wish to gain a range of practical horticultural skills including propagation, establishing and maintaining plants. You will also identify garden plants, pests and diseases.

#### Course content

The qualification consists of six mandatory units which cover the following topics:

- Soil Testing
- Sowing seeds and vegetative propagation techniques
- Practical skills in ground preparation for seeding and planting
- Practical skills in establishing seeds and plants in soil
- Care and pruning of plants
- Identification of a range of common garden plants, weeds, pests, diseases, disorders and beneficial organisms

In addition to the mandatory units, you must also successfully complete one of the following optional units.

- Sustainable garden practice
- Safe operation of powered garden machinery\*
- Establishing, Repairing and Maintaining a Lawn\*
- Practical Skills in Vegetable Growing
- Practical Skills in the Maintenance of Established Soft Fruit
- Practical Skills in the Maintenance of Established Top Fruit

\*For health and safety reasons you must be aged 16 or over to take this unit

#### Assessment

Assessment is ongoing through the achievement of a number of practical activities and underpinning knowledge questions relating to the units studied. We feel that undertaking the assessments is essential to engaging in the course fully, and therefore require students to register for examinations at the time of enrolment.

### **Entry requirements**

There are no formal entry requirements needed to study the level 2 certificate in practical horticulture, however a general interest and enthusiasm for horticulture and gardening is essential. Please also note that as this is a practical course, it does make physical demands, including digging.

### **Progression**

If you achieve this qualification, you will have gained a range of practical horticultural skills relevant to employment in various roles in the horticultural sector, such as a gardener in private, public, or botanic gardens or parks and urban green spaces

The qualification supports progression to further learning on Level 2 certificates and level 3 courses in horticulture, for example, the RHS Level 3 Certificate in Practical Horticulture.

### **Course Dates**

This course will take place on 28 Saturdays from September 2017 to July 2018. We intend to run lessons on the following dates, but additional dates may become necessary should staff sickness or other unforeseeable events prevent one of these lessons from taking place.

#### Autumn Term 2017

September 30<sup>th</sup>; October 7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup>; November 4<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup>; December 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>

#### Spring Term 2018

January 20<sup>th</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup>; February 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>; March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup>

#### Summer Term 2018

April 21<sup>st</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup>; May 12<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup>; June 9<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup>; July 7<sup>th</sup>

### **Additional Information**

You will be required to wear suitable clothing for working outside and to provide your own protective footwear and gloves.

Any absence, anticipated or unforeseen, could result in delay to your completing the qualification and receiving your certificate. There is limited leeway to reschedule practical and written assessments on an individual basis during the course. Your missed assessments would be re-scheduled in due course, but the taught element of the class would be lost.