

Winterbourne Centre for Horticulture

RHS Level 3 Certificate in Practical Horticulture

Costs: The cost of this course is £2095 including assessment costs.

Lessons: Thursdays from mid September 2025, running 10am-3.15pm (includes 45 min lunch). You will need to set aside time for homework between lessons.

Course summary

This level 3 course is part of the updated suite of level 3 certificates being offered by the RHS. It aims to improve existing knowledge of many of the principles underpinning horticultural practices. It is suitable for learners wanting progress within a horticultural profession; or for those who also have a Level 2 understanding of the subject and wish to build on their knowledge.

Course content

The qualification consists of the following eight topics:

- Plant Knowledge – identification and propagation of plants and their sourcing
- Creating Planted Areas – site preparation and planting schemes
- Maintaining Planted Areas – management and maintenance planning
- Plant Health – specialist plant health, pest and disease control
- Productive Growing – cultivation for consumption
- Protected Growing – cultivation and growing within structures
- Ecological and Sustainable Plantings – selection, establishment and maintenance
- Landscaping Materials – planning and maintaining hard landscaping features

Assessment

Assessment is through an online assessment test and in person practical assessment tests. The practical tests involve being observed carrying out a number of practical activities and answering underpinning knowledge questions relating to the units studied.

Winterbourne will support learners in carrying out the online test at home – this cannot be done at the centre.

You will need access to a computer capable of running the RHS qualification assessment software as there is not a paper alternative for the online assessment.

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Entry requirements

Applicants should hold a Level 2 qualification in horticulture or a related subject or be able to provide evidence that you are working at this level.

Progression

The qualification, when combined with other appropriate Level 3 horticultural knowledge qualifications, supports progression to further learning on Level 4 courses in horticulture, or entry to specialist horticultural training programmes.

Additional Information

You will be required to wear suitable clothing for working outside and to provide your own protective footwear and gloves. Once the assessment dates are finalised, they cannot be rescheduled. The online assessment is also unable to be rescheduled. There will be resit opportunities for an additional fee.

Deposit details

Course Title	Course Fees	Deposit Amount	Second Payment	Final Payment
RHS Level 3 Certificate in Practical Horticulture	£2095	£550	£775	£770

Course Dates

This course will take place on Thursdays September 2025 to June 2026. Lessons take place from 10am – 3.15pm and include a 45 minute lunch break.

Planned dates are listed below but please note that advertised dates are subject to change should a class need to be cancelled or postponed.

Course Dates

September 18th, 25th,

October 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd

November 6th, 13th, 20th, 27th,



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December 4th, 11th, 18th,

January 15th, 22nd, 29th,

February 5th, 12th, 26th,

March 5th, 12th, 19th, 26th,

April 9th, 23rd, 30th

May 7th, 14th, 21st,

June 4th, 11th, 18th, (online assessment 26th June)

(practical assessment will likely be in the beginning July)