Animal Care and Land-based Industries

Award in Canine Care and Welfare

Campus: Dearne Valley College
Code: D10AC03
Level: 2

About This Course

This

qualification is designed to provide you with the knowledge and understanding needed to work in the field of canine care, including kennelling, home boarding, or dog day care. You will learn the fundamentals of canine behaviour, including how to identify stress and aggression, and how to provide high-quality care and environmental enrichment for dogs of all breeds and sizes. Importantly, this course meets DEFRA's recommended baseline qualification requirements for staff working in licensed dog boarding, kenneling, or day-care establishments.

What Will I Study?

You will study modules focused on canine care, welfare, and behaviour. Key topics include:

- Understanding normal canine behaviour and body language.
- Implementing suitable routines to prevent welfare and behavioural issues.
- Providing effective environmental enrichment.
- Understanding appropriate, force-free training techniques.
- Identifying common canine diseases, disorders, and early signs of pain or illness.
- Safe feeding, hygiene, and handling routines.

Why Study Here?

We offer a supportive learning environment with industry-experienced tutors who understand the practical realities of the canine care sector. We focus on giving you the foundational knowledge required to confidently handle and care for dogs in a professional setting.

Entry Requirements

Learners must be aged 16 or over.

- You should be working at a Level 1 standard or above.
- You must be comfortable working around and handling dogs of all breeds and sizes.

How To Apply

You can apply using our online application form and clicking the **Apply Now** button at the top of this page.

For more information support with your enquiry or application please contact Student Services by emailing learn@dearne-coll.ac.uk or by calling **01709 513333**.

What Courses Can I Progress Onto?

Upon successful completion, you can progress onto the Level 3 Award in Canine Care, Behaviour and Welfare, or other related Level 3 animal management qualifications.

Tuition Fees

Funding
may be eligible, please contact the college.

Additional Information

This foundation-level course is ideal for anyone looking to start a career working with dogs, or for those currently working in unlicensed or entry-level pet care roles who need a formal, recognised qualification to meet current licensing regulations.

PLEASE NOTE

We make every effort to ensure information within our online course directory is accurate and a true representation of the courses we are offering in 2027-28 However, we do reserve the right to make changes if necessary.

Last updated: 27th November 2026