T Level in Agriculture, Environmental and Animal Care information for Higher Education Providers

	Description
What are T Levels?	T Levels were introduced by the government and are a full-time two-year Level 3 programme of study that provides students with the technical knowledge and practical skills valued by industry.
Who are T Levels for?	T Levels are aimed at 16-to-19-year-old students who want to continue their post-16 technical education and gain knowledge and skills to progress into higher education and/or employment. They will become one of the main choices as an alternative to A levels and apprenticeships straight after GCSEs.
What is the core purpose of the qualification?	The Agriculture, Environmental and Animal Care T Level comprises two pathways: Animal Care & Management and Agriculture, Land Management & Production. All students will study the common core component, which will develop a student's knowledge in a range of topics such as sustainability, ethics and health and safety. They will develop their understanding of working within sector, including professional responsibilities, business management and project management. Students will then study a core pathway relevant to their chosen occupational specialism where they will gain an understanding of the theoretical principles and practices integral to their chosen industry. The occupational specialisms have been designed so students can gain an understanding of how to apply their acquired knowledge and skills within different occupational industries.
What are the progression routes?	Students can continue to higher education, higher-level technical studies or onto a degree level apprenticeship.
Example of the progression routes to higher education may include	• Higher level technical studies • Degree level courses in Agriculture, Crop Science, Horticulture, Animal Science, Animal Behaviour and other related specialisms • Apprenticeship in the chosen occupational specialism
How are T Levels structured?	A T Level is made up of a number of components • Technical Qualification (TQ) • Industry placement of a minimum of 315 hours • Employability, enrichment and pastoral requirements Students must continue to study maths and English if they haven't already achieved Level 2 (GCSE grade 4). HEIs may have a prerequisite requirement for maths and English.

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| | How is the Technical Qualification in the T Level assessed? | The core component consists of an externally set and externally marked written exam (two dated papers consisting of a mix of short, structured, and challenging extended response questions). A substantial employer-set project (ESP) that is externally set, externally marked and time- controlled assessment. The ESP will consist of a well-defined, industry style brief. The brief will be complex and non-routine, and will require the use of relevant maths, English, and digital skills. The core is graded A*-E the same as an A level.

The occupational specialism (OS) is a substantial synoptic assignment made up of a series of tasks assessing application of occupational knowledge and skills. OSs are externally set, internally marked, and externally moderated, graded Pass, Merit, and Distinction. Animal Care & Management students also complete a research project and may sit an additional knowledge test. |

How are T Levels graded?

Students who complete their T Level will receive an overall grade of Pass, Merit, Distinction or Distinction*. They will get a nationally recognised certificate which will show their overall grade and a breakdown of what they have achieved.

Agriculture, Environmental and Animal Care T Levels grading table

		Occupational Specialism Grade		
		Distinction	Merit	Pass
Core Component Grade	A*	Distinction*	Distinction	Merit
	A	Distinction	Distinction	Merit
	B	Distinction	Merit	Merit
	C	Distinction	Merit	Pass
	D	Distinction	Merit	Pass
	E	Merit	Pass	Pass

What UCAS Tariff points are available?

UCAS points are allocated to the overall T Level grade, and to support students that partially achieve their T Level, UCAS tariff points are available for both elements of the TQ:

• Pass for core component and completion of industry placement
• Pass for occupational specialism and completion of industry placement

Students must achieve at least an overall pass grade to receive UCAS points.

The size and rigour of a T Level programme is comparable to a 3 A level programme. Therefore, T Levels will attract UCAS points in line with those allocated to 3 A levels. This alignment is based on a notional comparison of standards with A levels and other level 3 qualifications.

UCAS tariff points	Description	A level
168	Distinction*	A* A* A*
144	Distinction	AAA
120	Merit	BBB
96	Pass (C or above on the core)	CCC
72	Pass (D or E on the core)	DDD

Do you require further information?

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