Livestock Production Assessment 8717-413 guidance

Assessment Adjustments from Summer 2026

The following changes are being made to include pig skills within the content and assessment of the Livestock Production Occupational Specialism:

- Stockperson skills included in the Livestock Production Occupational Specialism can be applied to all species (cattle, sheep and pigs)
- Learners will still be assessed on the knowledge of four species (cattle, sheep, pigs, poultry) and the skills to work with two species (cattle, sheep, pigs), but the assignment and tasks will be designed so livestock species can be chosen at the discretion of the centre. This will support regionality differences in the availability of livestock species.

The following changes are being made to the content and assessment to ensure sufficient comparability and manageability can be achieved through the content and assessments:

- Any specific skills for a species will be removed from the content i.e. milking cattle.

The species-specific skills do remain part of the qualification framework and it is encouraged that learners cover these, as relevant, as part of the industry placement.

Please be aware that these two versions of the Livestock Production OS will be available simultaneously due to changes for the inclusion of pig skills outlined above. Please reference this guide to ensure bookings are made correctly.

Key Information for September 2023 cohort

Learners registered as part of the September 2023 cohort will take their OS assessment in Summer 2025 using the 8717-403 version of the OS content (which does not include pig skills and covers species-specific skills). Bookings open from September 2024.

Key Information for cohorts from September 2024 onwards

Learners registered from September 2024 onwards will be assessed against the updated Livestock OS 8717-413 which will be amended to include assessment of two species (out of cattle, sheep and the new inclusion of pigs). The first OS assessment for the updated version will be Summer 2026. Bookings open from September 2025.

If you require any information or support for the integration of pig skills, please contact our Quality Delivery Team on 0300 303 53 52 or email technicals.quality@cityandguilds.com.