

Level 2 Certificate in Garden Design

Summary of changes

Purpose: Following a scheduled review of this qualification, changes have been made to ensure that the qualification remains fit for purpose, relevant and engaging.

Updating the Level 2 Certificate in Garden Design units “Garden Design: Creating 2D Objects and Layout Plans using Computer-Aided Design” and “Garden Design: Creating 3D Objects, Garden and Planting Plans using Computer-Aided Design” is essential to keep the qualification aligned with current digital design practices. As CAD technology evolves rapidly, learners need up-to-date skills that reflect the software, standards, and workflows used in modern garden design studios. By maintaining the relevance of both units, the qualification continues to equip learners with the practical digital competencies expected in today’s garden design industry.

The information below details what changes have been made for teaching from 1st August 2026 onwards:

Revision date	Updated by	Previous version	New version	What this means for you
January 2026	Product	Garden Design: Creating 2D Objects and Layout Plans using Computer-Aided Design (Y/507/3023)	A new unit with the same title, but a different code, has been created - Garden Design: Creating 2D Objects and Layout Plans using Computer-Aided Design (M/651/9562)	Centres must ensure that they are registering learners onto the new unit as of 1st August 2026. These changes mean providers will need to update delivery and assessment
January 2026	Product	Garden Design: Creating 3D Objects, Garden and Planting Plans using Computer-Aided Design (D/507/3024)	A new unit with the same title, but a different code, has been created - Garden Design: Creating 3D Objects, Garden and Planting Plans using Computer-Aided Design (R/651/9563)	materials to reflect the revised learning outcomes and criteria, ensuring teaching remains accurate, current and aligned with the updated unit requirements.

Garden Design: Creating 2D Objects and Layout Plans using Computer-Aided Design

Unit reference:	M/651/9562
Unit level:	Level 2
GLH:	24
Credit value:	3
Grading method:	Pass/Fail

LEARNING OUTCOMES	ASSESSMENT CRITERIA
The learner will:	The learner can:
1. Understand Computer-Aided Design Software.	1.1 Describe the uses and features of Computer-Aided Design Software for garden design. 1.2 Explain the advantages and disadvantages of using Computer-Aided Design Software for garden design.
2. Know why it is important to comply with national and international drawing standards for garden design.	2.1 Explain the features and symbols used in national and international drawing standards for garden design.
3. Be able to use Computer-Aided Design Software to produce 2D drawings for layout plans.	3.1 Use Computer-Aided Design Software to produce 2D drawings. 3.2 Use tools and techniques to improve drawings.
4. Be able to produce a site survey drawing as the basis for a garden design.	4.1 Use Computer-Aided Design Software to produce a site survey drawing as the basis for a garden design.

Garden Design: Creating 3D Objects, Garden and Planting Plans using Computer-Aided Design

Unit reference:	R/651/9563
Unit level:	Level 2
GLH:	24
Credit value:	3
Grading method:	Pass/Fail

LEARNING OUTCOMES	ASSESSMENT CRITERIA
The learner will:	The learner can:
1. Understand Computer-Aided Design Software.	1.1 Describe the uses and features of Computer-Aided Design Software for designing gardens. 1.2 Explain the advantages and disadvantages of using Computer-Aided Design Software for garden design and planting plans.
2. Know why it is important to comply with national and international drawing standards for garden design.	2.1 Explain the features and symbols used in national and international drawing standards for garden design and planting plans.
3. Be able to use Computer-Aided Design Software to produce 3D drawings for layout plans.	3.1 Use Computer-Aided Design Software to produce 3D drawings. 3.2 Use tools and techniques to improve 3D drawings.
4. Know how to create a garden design using a range of CAD techniques.	4.1 Use Computer-Aided Design Software to produce a garden design and planting plan.