



**Highfield**

Qualifications®

www.highfieldqualifications.com

## Qualification Specification

### Highfield Level 2 Award in Food Safety for Retail (RQF)

Qualification Number: 603/4940/2

Version 1.2 March 2020

## Contents

Introduction .....	3
Qualification regulation and support.....	3
Key facts .....	3
Qualification overview and objective .....	3
Entry requirements.....	3
Tutor requirements .....	4
Reasonable adjustments and special considerations.....	5
ID requirements .....	5
Progression opportunities.....	5
Useful websites .....	6
Recommended training materials .....	6
Appendix 1: Qualification structure.....	7
Appendix 2: Qualification content.....	8
Appendix 3: Sample assessment material.....	12

## Highfield Level 2 Award in Food Safety for Retail (RQF)

### Introduction

This qualification specification is designed to outline all you need to know to offer this qualification at your centre. If you have any further questions, please contact your account manager

---

### Qualification regulation and support

The Highfield Level 2 Award in Food Safety for Retail has been developed and is awarded by Highfield Qualifications and sits on the Regulated Qualifications Framework (RQF). The RQF includes those qualifications regulated by Ofqual and CCEA Regulation. This qualification is also regulated by Qualifications Wales.

---

### Key facts

<b>Qualification number:</b>	603/4940/2
<b>Learning aim reference:</b>	60349402
<b>Credit value:</b>	1
<b>Assessment method:</b>	Multiple-choice examination
<b>Guided learning hours (GLH):</b>	7
<b>Total qualification time (TQT):</b>	7

---

### Qualification overview and objective

The objective of this qualification is to prepare learners for employment as a food handler working in a retail environment, or to support a role in the workplace.

Learners gaining this qualification will know that food safety is the responsibility of everyone involved in the storage, preparation and handling of food. Its topics are regarded by the Foods Standards Agency as being important to maintaining good practice in the production of safe food.

---

### Entry requirements

To register on to this qualification, learners are required to be 14 years of age or above.

It is also advised that learners have a minimum of Level 1 in English and Maths or equivalent.

---

### Guidance on delivery

The total qualification time for this qualification is 7 hours, all of which are recommended as guided learning hours.

TQT is an estimate of the total number of hours it would take an average learner to achieve and demonstrate the necessary level of attainment to be awarded with a qualification, both under direct supervision (forming guided learning hours) and without supervision (all other time). TQT and GLH values are advisory and assigned to a qualification as guidance.

---

### Guidance on assessment

This qualification is assessed by multiple-choice examination, externally set and marked by Highfield Qualifications.

Learners must complete 20 questions within 45 minutes. The multiple-choice examination is designed to cover all of the assessment criteria as detailed in Appendix 2 of this specification, and successful learners will need to achieve a mark of 66% (13/20) overall to pass. Completed examination papers should be returned to Highfield for marking and results will then be supplied to the centre afterwards.

This qualification is graded pass/fail.

Centres must take all reasonable steps to avoid any part of the assessment of a learner (including any internal quality assurance and invigilation) being undertaken by any person who has a personal interest in the result of the assessment.

---

### Guidance on quality assurance

Highfield Qualifications requires centres to have a robust mechanism for internal quality assurance in place. Internal quality assurance must be completed by an appropriately qualified person and who must not have been involved in any aspect of the delivery or assessment of the course they are quality assuring.

For more information on internal quality assurance processes, please refer to the tutor, assessor and IQA support pack available to download from the Highfield website.

---

### Recognition of prior learning (RPL)

Centres may apply to use recognition of prior learning or prior achievement to reduce the amount of time spent in preparing a learner for assessment. For further information on how centres can apply to use RPL as described above, please refer to the Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) Policy in the members' area of the Highfield Qualifications website. This policy should be read in conjunction with this specification and all other relevant Highfield documentation.

---

### Tutor requirements

Highfield recommends that nominated tutors hold a qualification in the relevant subject area and have a teaching qualification or teaching experience

Therefore, it is recommended that nominated tutors have a Level 3 Food Safety in Catering qualification (or equivalent) from a recognised awarding body together with a training qualification.

#### *Suitable subject area qualifications may include:*

- Degree or DipHE in a related subject such as:
  - Food Science
  - Environmental Health
  - Home Economics
  - Microbiology
  - or one that contains elements of these subjects
- HNC/D in a related subject (as outlined above);
- Level 3 or 4 qualification in Food Safety;

- Graduate Diploma in Food Science and Technology of the Institute of Food Science and Technology; or
- any other Highfield approved qualification

***Suitable teaching qualifications include:***

- Highfield Level 3 Award in Delivering Training (RQF);
- Highfield Level 3 International Award in Delivering Training (IADT);
- Level 3 PTLLS, or above;
- Level 3 Award in Education and Training, or above;
- Diploma or Certificate in Education;
- Bachelors or Masters Degree in Education;
- City and Guilds Teachers Certificate or equivalent;
- Level 3 or 4 NVQ in Training and/or Development; or
- Proof of at least 30 hours of training in any subject.

---

### Reasonable adjustments and special considerations

Highfield Qualifications has measures in place for learners who require additional support. Please refer to Highfield Qualifications' Reasonable Adjustments Policy for further information/guidance.

---

### ID requirements

It is the responsibility of the centre to have systems in place to ensure that the person taking an assessment is indeed the person they are claiming to be. All centres are therefore required to ensure that each learner's identification is checked before they undertake the assessment. Highfield Qualifications recommends the following as proof of a learner's identity:

- a valid passport (any nationality)
- a signed UK photocard driving licence
- a valid warrant card issued by HM forces or the police
- another photographic ID card, e.g. employee ID card, student ID card, travel card etc.

If a learner is unable to produce any of the forms of photographic identification listed above, a centre may accept another form of identification containing a signature, for example, a credit card. Identification by a third-party representative, such as a line manager, human resources manager or invigilator, will also be accepted.

**For more information on learner ID requirements, please refer to Highfield Qualifications' Core Manual.**

---

### Progression opportunities

On successful completion of this qualification, learners may wish to continue their development by undertaking one of the following qualifications:

- Level 3 Award in Food Safety for Retail
- Level 3 food and drink qualifications
- Hospitality competency-based qualifications

### Useful websites

- [www.highfieldqualifications.com](http://www.highfieldqualifications.com)
- [www.highfieldproducts.com](http://www.highfieldproducts.com)
- [www.food.gov.uk](http://www.food.gov.uk)

---

### Recommended training materials

*The Food Safety Handbook (Level 2)*, Sprenger, R.A. Highfield International

*Hygiene Sense*, Sprenger, R.A. Highfield International

---

## Appendix 1: Qualification structure

To complete the Highfield Level 2 Award in Food Safety for Retail (RQF), learners must complete **all units** contained within the mandatory group.

### Mandatory group

Unit reference	Unit title	Level	GLH	Credit
H/617/7265	Principles of Food Safety for Retail	2	7	1

## Appendix 2: Qualification content

### Unit 1: Principles of Food Safety for Retail

Unit number: H/617/7265

Credit: 1

GLH: 7

Level: 2

Learning Outcomes	Assessment Criteria
<i>The learner will</i>	<i>The learner can</i>
<p><b>1. Understand the importance of food handlers keeping themselves and work areas clean and hygienic</b></p>	<p>1.1 Recognise the importance of personal hygiene in food safety including their role in reducing the risk of contamination</p> <p>1.2 Identify key legal responsibilities of food handlers</p> <p>1.3 Identify effective personal hygiene practices relating to protective clothing, hand washing, personal illness, cuts, wounds, food handling practices</p> <p>1.4 Identify how to keep the work area and equipment clean and tidy, by following procedures relating to cleaning methods, safe use of chemicals, storage of cleaning chemicals</p> <p>1.5 Recognise the importance of safe waste disposal</p> <p>1.6 Recognise the importance of pest control</p>
<p><b>2. Understand the importance of keeping food products safe</b></p>	<p>2.1 Recognise the importance of food safety procedures, safe food handling and avoiding unsafe behaviour</p> <p>2.2 Identify how to report food safety hazards, infestations and food spoilage</p> <p>2.3 Recognise the main risks to food safety from contamination and cross-contamination from microbial, chemical, physical and allergenic hazards</p> <p>2.4 Identify safe food handling and temperature control practices for delivery, storage, date marking and stock rotation</p>



Learning Outcomes	Assessment Criteria
<i>The learner will</i>	<i>The learner can</i>
	<p>2.5 Identify safe food handling and temperature control practices for preparing, re-stocking, picking and transporting food for home delivery</p> <p>2.6 Identify how to deal with food spoilage including recognition and reporting</p>

Indicative content
<p><b>LO1 Understand the importance of food handlers keeping themselves and work areas clean and hygienic</b></p> <p>1.1 Recognise the importance of personal hygiene in food safety including their role in reducing the risk of contamination</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ How good personal hygiene in a food retail environment can reduce microbial, chemical, physical and allergenic contamination</li> </ul> <p>1.2 Identify key legal responsibilities of food handlers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Requirement for:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Food safety training &amp; supervision in retail</li> <li>– Reporting of illness</li> <li>– Following rules and procedures implemented for food safety</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>1.3 Identify effective personal hygiene practices relating to protective clothing, hand washing, personal illness, cuts, wounds, food handling practices</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Practices in a food retail environment regarding:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Clean, suitable protective clothing</li> <li>– Jewellery and personal effects</li> <li>– Effective hand wash</li> <li>– Times to wash hands</li> <li>– Recognising illness which may cause food contamination</li> <li>– When to come to work and when to call in sick</li> <li>– Covering wounds</li> <li>– Personal habits to avoid</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>1.4 Identify how to keep the work area and equipment clean and tidy, by following procedures relating to cleaning methods, safe use of chemicals, storage of cleaning chemicals</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Reasons for cleaning</li> <li>○ Cleaning and disinfection techniques, including order of cleaning</li> <li>○ Cleaning chemicals, including purpose of detergent, disinfectant and sanitiser and following manufacturer’s instructions and safe storage</li> <li>○ Clear and clean as you go</li> </ul>

1.5 Recognise the importance of safe waste disposal

- Internal and external controls within a food retail business, including regular removal of waste, clean areas, secure and lidded externally, cleaned regularly

1.6 Recognise the importance of pest control

- Hazards from pests
- Common food pests and signs of pests
- Reporting of signs
- Basic environmental control (which they are responsible for) such as clearing food spillages, keeping doors and windows closed, lids on bins

**LO2 Understand the importance of keeping food products safe**

2.1 Recognise the importance of food safety procedures, safe food handling and avoiding unsafe behaviour

- Benefits to customers, food retail businesses and food handlers of effective procedures
- Costs of poor practices to a food retail business

2.2 Identify how to report food safety hazards, infestations and food spoilage

- What to report, when to report, who to report, who to report to with regards to:
- Hazards, infestations/signs of pests and spoilage in a food retail environment

2.3 Recognise the main risks to food safety from contamination and cross-contamination from microbial, chemical, physical and allergenic hazards

- Meaning of terms contamination, cross-contamination, raw food to be cooked, high-risk food, low-risk food and ready-to-eat raw food
- Types of microbiological contaminants (bacteria, virus, mould)
- Common sources, routes and vehicles of microbiological contamination in a food retail environment
- Recognition of main characteristics of food poisoning bacteria, factors influencing microbiological multiplication and survival (including spores and toxins) and consequences these may have for food safety and basic controls
- Examples of basic controls to prevent microbiological contamination, including keeping raw and ready to eat separate, use of correct equipment to prevent contamination (including colour coding), reporting damaged equipment, including work surfaces
- Examples of common physical hazards within food preparation areas and basic controls
- Examples of common chemical hazards within food preparation areas and basic controls
- Identification of common allergenic foods and risks associated with allergenic hazards.
- Awareness of ways to prevent allergenic contamination during food production

2.4 Identify safe food handling and temperature control practices for delivery, storage, date marking and stock rotation

- Basic contamination and temperature controls and checks to be made at delivery
- Importance of labelling
- Importance of stock rotation and date coding

- Importance of temperature control during storage, including correct temperatures and basic ways to achieve them

2.5 Identify safe food handling and temperature control practices for preparing, re-stocking, picking and transporting food for home delivery

- Preparation:
  - Separation of raw and ready to eat foods
  - Dedicated equipment
  - Not preparing too far in advance
- Cooking:
  - Following recipes
  - Cooking thoroughly
  - Safe temperatures
  - Preventing contamination
- Chilling:
  - The need to cool quickly
  - The need to prevent contamination
- Reheating:
  - Meeting required temperature when reheating
  - Only reheating once
- Holding and displaying food:
  - Preventing contamination
  - Safe temperature for hot and cold holding
  - Time controls
- Selling and serving food:
  - Avoiding contamination
  - Clean packaging
  - Correct labels
  - Suitable transportation and containers
  - Importance of temperature control

2.6 Identify how to deal with food spoilage including recognition and reporting

- Common signs of food spoilage
- The need to report spoiled food
- Separation of spoiled food

## Appendix 3: Sample assessment material

Sample questions:

1. How long can a food retail business legally display cold food above 8°C?
  - a) 1 hour
  - b) 2 hours
  - c) 3 hours
  - d) 4 hours
  
2. The **main** reason food handlers should not eat when working behind a food service counter is because they might:
  - a) annoy customers and risk damaging the food retailer's reputation
  - b) need to change their gloves before serving the next customer
  - c) become unwell from contaminated food
  - d) contaminate their hands from touching their mouth
  
3. Food retail businesses should provide external waste bins that have lids to:
  - a) reduce the risk of pest problems
  - b) prevent bins being overfilled
  - c) make the bins easier to clean
  - d) avoid the need to use plastic bags