

MEMBER VISIT

RHS Qualifications is the awarding organisation of the Royal Horticultural Society, working with further education colleges, independent training providers, employers, and local authorities to develop the skills needed for a thriving, sustainable horticulture and land-based sector.

With a strong focus on green skills, sustainability, wellbeing, and environmental regeneration, RHS Qualifications is keen to work with providers interested in delivering programmes linked to local skills shortages and the evolving needs of the green economy.

They offer a wide range of nationally recognised horticulture and garden-based qualifications, supporting learners at all stages from entry level and career change routes through to advanced technical and professional development. These qualifications are designed to equip learners with practical, work-ready skills while supporting progression into employment, apprenticeships, or further study.



Supporting Green Skills, Sustainability and Local Workforce Needs

A key priority for RHS Qualifications is supporting providers and employers to respond to skills gaps in horticulture and the wider land-based sector, ensuring qualifications remain relevant, accessible, and aligned to workforce demand.

By strengthening partnerships and sharing best practice across the provider network, RHS Qualifications continues to support delivery that reflects environmental sustainability, health and wellbeing, community regeneration, and local green skills priorities.

Working to Grow Green Skills and Careers

Partnerships sit at the heart of RHS Qualifications' approach, working closely with FE colleges, ITPs, employers, local authorities, and sector bodies to create clear, joined-up pathways into sustainable employment.

This includes supporting providers to align curricula to workforce needs, helping employers develop skilled, future-ready workforces through training and CPD opportunities, and enabling community organisations to deliver social value through greener spaces, wellbeing outcomes, and sustainability initiatives.

What have been your big wins / successes over the past year?

One of the most significant developments has been the launch of the Wellbeing Garden Blueprint in March 2026, developed in partnership with NHS Forest. This science-based resource supports communities, organisations, and healthcare settings to create gardens designed to improve wellbeing.

Early evaluation from NHS RHS gardens has shown strong impact, with more than 70% of staff at University Hospital Lewisham reporting improved mental health after accessing a wellbeing garden, highlighting the value of nature-based interventions.

RHS Qualifications is also proud of its growing collaboration with providers and employers to promote green careers and strengthen sustainability-focused learning pathways across the sector.

How RHS benefit from a YLP membership

We asked RHS Qualifications for their thoughts on the benefits of a YLP membership. They highlighted that it provides a valuable platform to connect with FE colleges, training providers, employers, and regional partners across Yorkshire.

Through YLP, RHS Qualifications is able to gain insight into local skills priorities, workforce challenges, and opportunities for collaboration. This helps them shape horticulture and green skills qualifications that meet employer demand and support providers delivering training linked to sustainability, wellbeing, and land-based careers.

What further support do you need from a YLP membership?

They are particularly keen to hear from providers interested in delivering green, sustainability-focused, wellbeing, or land-based programmes, especially where these align to local skills shortages and regional workforce needs.

