



## Work Based training in Biodynamic Farming and Gardening

endorsed by  
**Biodynamic  
Association**  
Board of Studies

# Info for new Work Placements

## Welcome!

You have chosen to be part of a modern, inspiring and vibrant movement, with the aim to enable a new generation of farmers and gardeners to meet the challenges of future work on the Land. Below you will find information, guidance and advice that help you to successfully start and continue a rewarding training scheme.

## the Movement

The organised BD work-based training started in the late 80's in the UK and has always and still is organised and carried by BD-farmers and -gardeners. Since September 2010 the BD work-based training is accredited through Crossfields Institute and regulated by OFQUAL and EU recognised at a level 3.

Currently (Dec.2018) there are 22 Work Placements (BD farms and gardens) that offer about 32 placements. However the need for additional training placements is required to match the enquiries from potential students and new farmers and gardener for a sustainable future.

## the Training Structure

The work placement offers knowledge, understanding, skill, guidance, reflection and pastoral care. The BDAC offers structure training guid to tutors and students, individual support, quality assurance, assessments of portfolio work, administration, admissions, scheme - maintenance and -development. The Seminars are run by professionals with teaching skills, mainly farmers and gardeners. They provide subject knowledge, help to understand through a range of exercises that develop own senses, offer a range of perspectives and social exchange. The training is based on adult learning. A strong emphasis is on the learners self motivated engagement, which will be research, home study, diary, portfolio work, preparation of presentations for the seminars, reading, observations and other exercises, taking on responsibility at the training centre, asking questions. The Work Placement offer experience of work, live and social structure in a farm organism, where skill and senses can be schooled and knowledge can be grounded.

## Start and End

The Diploma training last two years, based on a two-year seminar cycle. However the stay on the work placement is unlimited, often starts before and goes beyond. The learners registration lasts for three years and within that time the portfolio need to be handed in and be finally assessed. There is now specific date/month of start, however many start in September.

# Work Placements registration

The new Work Placement applies to the BDAC work-based training group containing the trainers CV, and information about the holding, containing learning opportunities provided.

This will be followed up by a formal supportive visit by one member of the training core group.

The new work placements will be added at the BDAC and BDA training website as training providers and offer a link to further detailed information about the placement (provided by the new Work Placements).

This process might take a few weeks.

## Finances

Work placements employ the BD student at minimum wage. This enables the student to cover all costs for accommodation, food and BDAC Diploma fees.

The work experience and training provided to the BD student will be supported by a grant from the BDAC to the work placement of £2520 per year, per student. This grant will be paid in six month instalments, each February and August. = 24 month @ £210 = £5040 total.

Guidelines are given to assure a successful training time for student and training centre.

The amount of work experience expected, are between 35-44 hours/week over 48 weeks per year. Four weeks Seminars per year, preparation time, study, and portfolio work take a serious amount of time for the student.

The BD student:

The student pay's to the BDAC £500 at registration followed by 24 monthly payments of £450 for admission, registration, induction, support, certification, all ten seminar weeks (incl. accommodation and food) scheme maintenance and development.

for more information visit [www.bdacollege.org.uk](http://www.bdacollege.org.uk)

or contact:

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