

Marina Peneva



I have been working as a gardener for the last 4 years in London. Firstly, I was maintaining private gardens in South East London and then was working for 3 and half years for a landscape company which was looking after residential gardens mainly in East and South East London. Recently, I changed my job and now I am a part of a gardening team in private estate.

The PGT award was for £750 and the full price of the course (RHS L3) was £1110.

The name of the course RHS Level 3 Certificate in the Principles of Garden Planning, Construction and Planting which was the last part to be completed in order to gain the diploma in that level. The course took place in Capel Manor College, Regents Park Site every Wednesday from September 2016 to March the following year. The exams took place in February and June 2017, and happy to announce that have past all of them.

The training provided was a new area of horticulture for me which I never though I will get interested. It has brought a lot of benefits and awareness towards designing a garden or just a border and all the consideration and steps before starting the actual job.

We have learnt garden survey techniques and design principles. Starting from understanding of how to develop a client brief and conducting a site appraisal and the difference between both. Leading to understanding a range of basic surveying techniques such as linear and level surveying. Also understanding the principles of garden design such as unity, symmetry and asymmetry, form and space, scale and proportion, movement and rhythm, colour, harmony and use of all of them in garden design. Nevertheless, the understanding of historical development of garden design styles was taught too. This part of the course was challenging for me as it was completely new material involving measurement and using instruments as dumpy level. Most of the sessions were taught indoors which I consider as a little disadvantage, a bit more of practical assessment would have been beneficial.

Overall the training has helped me to boost my knowledge in horticulture and I have developed new skills in this field. I recently started for a new job and having gain this qualification definitely had put me ahead of another candidate. I would not have done that without the award from PGT.