



Writtle  
University  
College

Equipment and Suggested Reading for  
**BSc (Hons), Certificate  
and Dip HE  
Horticulture Courses**

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We are looking forward to welcoming you to your horticulture course at Writtle University College. This equipment list will give you an idea of what you will need to start your course.

### Equipment

Details of local suppliers will be made available to you during Freshers' Week, but if you already have any of the items listed below, please bring them with you to see if they are suitable. It is advisable to avoid purchasing other items until you have been advised on the specifications required.

- Safety wellingtons or safety boots (both steel toecaps) this is compulsory for practical work
- Hi-viz tabard (required)
- Boiler suit/overalls (recommended but not essential)
- White lab coat (needed for laboratory sessions)
- Hand lens (recommended but not essential)
- Secateurs – secateurs used in the garden at home may not always be suitable for professional use as they are not sufficiently robust; but they can be useful in the first instance. Many professional horticulturists use Felco secateurs, but please note that these are expensive
- Gardening gloves (recommended but not essential)
- Scientific calculator (specialist software will be recommended as a free download for data handling)
- Digital camera – camera phones are often very good and can be used to help you with plant identification and site visits
- A suitable laptop for your studies. For further consideration, please check our [Student Laptop Recommendation](#) page

### Suggested Reading

There is no requirement to purchase textbooks prior to starting the course. Module leaders will recommend texts to support specialist subject content and assignment work during your studies and copies will be available for loan from the College library or available as e-books. If students wish to undertake any pre-reading, the following may be useful as background reading and the \*asterisked books below provide general introductions:

Adams, C. R., Early M. P. and Bamford, K.M. (2017) Principles of Horticulture. New York: Routledge

Capon, B. (2010) Botany for Gardeners. 3rd edition. London: Timber Press\*

Sadava, D., Hillis, D., Heller, H. C. and Hacker, S. D. (2016) Life: The Science of Biology. Sunderland: Sinauer Associates

Toogood, A. (2006) RHS Propagating Plants. London: Dorling Kindersley

Uglow, J. (2005) A Little History of British Gardening. London: Pimlico\*