

Diploma in **Veterinary Nursing** (Small Animal)



CENTRAL QUALIFICATIONS™
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Central Qualifications: Innovations in learning

Central Qualifications (CQ) is a nationally recognised Ofqual approved awarding body that is committed to developing and providing a wide range of qualifications to meet the needs of the veterinary industry.

Well-trained nursing staff are key to the successful operation of modern veterinary practices. We believe that the continual development of the role of the veterinary nurse within the practice team will further improve the professional care available for animals. Therefore, CQ engages with learners, practices, colleges and training providers in delivering a range of modern and comprehensive qualifications that support the profession.

We are dedicated to providing high standards of vocational learning. Our qualifications have been developed to provide learners with the knowledge and practical competencies needed to be a valuable employee and, ultimately,

to benefit the profession. The majority of our staff are veterinary surgeons and veterinary nurses, who understand the requirements of the industry and the necessity for training that is deliverable within the working practice.

Our fresh way of thinking means that the qualifications offered are not only innovative and flexible, but have been designed to improve the way in which learners and centres undertake them. All courses offered by CQ are quality assured and assessed to the highest standards.

If you would like more information about Central Qualifications, please contact us on **01359 245316** or visit www.cqual.org.



Diploma in **Veterinary Nursing** (Small Animal)

The Level 3 Diploma in Veterinary Nursing (Small Animal) prepares learners for a career as a small animal veterinary nurse.

Learners will develop the knowledge and skills necessary to practice veterinary nursing safely and competently, as well as gaining life skills essential for growth as individuals and to be valuable members of the practice team.

Entry requirements

Learners should have a minimum of five GCSEs (or equivalent), at grade C or above, including English, Mathematics and a Science subject.

Qualification delivery

The Diploma in Veterinary Nursing (Small Animal) is delivered by Centres approved by Central Qualifications. For a full list of Centres, [click here](#).

The programme includes a balance of practice-based learning and theoretical teaching, therefore learners must be able to undertake suitable work experience in a

veterinary practice that has been approved for training by Central Qualifications. It is essential that learners are taught in suitable veterinary teaching environments as practical learning is a vital element of this qualification.

Methods of learning

The course will require a minimum of 715 guided learning hours and the qualification can be completed on a full or part-time basis. Learners are also required to complete a minimum of 1,185 hours of independent study, comprising practice experience in an approved veterinary environment.

Practical learning, coupled with theoretical teaching, ensures that learners develop a comprehensive understanding of the role, as well as the required practical competencies to be a small animal veterinary nurse.



Qualification structure

Units of study

- Understanding the operational requirements of veterinary practice
- Professional relationships and communication for veterinary nursing practice
- Comparative functional anatomy for veterinary nursing practice
- Applied animal welfare, health and husbandry for veterinary nurses
- Infection control in veterinary practice
- Understanding the essentials of veterinary nursing care for hospitalised animals
- Essentials of practical veterinary nursing care for hospitalised animals
- Supporting the supply of veterinary medicines
- Veterinary nursing support of diagnostic imaging
- Veterinary nursing support of laboratory diagnostics
- Supporting veterinary operating theatre practice
- Principles of supporting veterinary anaesthesia
- Practical monitoring of small animal veterinary anaesthesia
- Principles of peri-operative veterinary nursing support for small animals
- Practical peri-operative veterinary nursing support for small animals
- Principles of veterinary nursing

- support for small animal patients
- Practical veterinary nursing support for small animal patients
- Principles of small animal veterinary nursing emergency and critical care
- Preparing for professional registration

Assessment

Learners are required to complete a series of assignments, theory examinations and clinical skills examinations when studying for the Diploma in Veterinary Nursing (Small Animal); these are graded as pass or fail and learners are required to pass all assessments to achieve the qualification.

Learners will also compile a work-based online progress log (Central Skills Log).

Progression

The Diploma in Veterinary Nursing (Small Animal) allows learners to progress onto the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons (RCVS) Advanced Diploma in Veterinary Nursing.



CQ Approved Centres



If you would like more information about CQ approved Centres providing veterinary nursing qualifications, [click here](#) or contact us on **01359 245316**.



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