

Qualification title	Diploma in Small Animal Practice – Top Up
Qualification level	3
Qualification number	Ofqual:

QUALIFICATION OVERVIEW	
<i>Who is this qualification for and what could it lead to?</i>	The Diploma in Small Animal Practice – Top Up aims to prepare and support learners for a career in a small animal environment.
<i>Are there any entry requirements?</i>	Learners must be a qualified RVN. Learners must be able to undertake suitable work experience in a small animal environment that has been approved for training by CQ.
<i>What are the key purposes of the qualification?</i>	The Small Animal Practice Top Up aims to prepare and support qualified registered veterinary nurses for a career in a small animal environment. The key purposes of the qualification are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To give learners the ability to gain the knowledge and skills necessary to practise small animal nursing, safely and competently. • To allow learners to grow as individuals and give them the chance to learn life skills essential for professional development.
<i>What does this qualification cover?</i>	The programme will include a balance of practical learning and theoretical teaching and use a variety of strategies to ensure learners can undertake clinical tasks proficiently. Clinical placements in relevant small animal environments will allow the acquisition of nursing skills and will enable learners to become competent and confident in their skills. In order to successfully achieve the qualification a student will need to gain a pass in all units within the syllabus. All units are mandatory.

What are the units within the syllabus?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Applied animal welfare, health and husbandry in small animal practice Infection control in small animal practice Veterinary nursing care for hospitalised small animals Understand and apply the principles of fluid therapy and intravenous cannulation Principles of supporting anaesthesia for small animal veterinary nurses Principles of small animal peri-operative veterinary nursing support Diagnostic imaging in small animal practice Laboratory diagnostics in small animal practice Principles of small animal veterinary nursing support Veterinary nursing support for emergency and critical care of small animal patients Homecare, Convalescence and Client Support
How is the qualification assessed?	<p>Knowledge and understanding will be assessed by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assignments set by CQ and administered by Centres. Multiple choice examinations set and administered by CQ. <p>Practical skills will be assessed by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> An electronic work-based progress log (Central Skills Log). Practical skills are recorded by learners using the Central Skills Log. Clinical coaches/practical tutors confirm competency and Centres internally verify progress.
How is the qualification graded?	<p>Distinction</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> First time pass of 80% and above in all components of each theory examination Pass in all assignments Completion of Central Skills Log <p>Merit</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> First time pass in all components of each theory examination Pass in all assignments Completion of Central Skills Log <p>Pass</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pass in each theory examination Pass in all assignments Completion of Central Skills Log
Who supports this qualification?	<p>Industry https://cqual.org/knowledge-base/resources/qualification-letters-of-support/industry-support-dipsaptu</p> <p>Further education https://cqual.org/knowledge-base/resources/qualification-letters-of-support/educator-support-dipsaptu</p>
Total Qualification Time (TQT)	1200
Guided Learning Hours (GLH)	335