



Puppy Welcome and Information Sheet

Thank you for entrusting your puppy's care to Penstone Veterinary Group

Vaccinations

We advise vaccination to protect your puppy against these diseases, some of which can be fatal – Distemper, Parvovirus, Leptospirosis, Hepatitis and Parainfluenza.

Vaccination Regime:

Your puppy will need two vaccinations 2-4 weeks apart. The 1st can be given at 8 weeks of age and the 2nd at minimum of 10 weeks. Puppies should not be allowed outside until one week after the 2nd vaccination. An annual booster is required to maintain immunity.

We also recommend vaccination against Kennel Cough (Infectious Tracheobronchitis) for dogs going to kennels, groomers or training classes. This is given intranasally and gives protection for 12 months.

Fleas



Fleas can cause significant distress to your dog by irritating the skin; they also transmit the flea tapeworm.

A few interesting flea facts

- a female flea can lay **5000 + eggs** in her lifetime
- any fleas you see on your dog are only **5% of the total flea population** in your house
- flea pupae in your carpet can wait **many months** for the right conditions to occur before hatching

An effective flea control regime needs to interrupt the lifecycle to remove fleas from the environment not just from the pet.

Program tablets: Stops flea eggs hatching and is safe and effective. This is given once a month in the food.

Frontline Combo Spot-On: Kills fleas and ticks on the pet and inhibits flea larval growth in the environment.

Advocate and Stronghold Spot-On: These kill adult fleas as well as other external and internal parasites.

RIP Spray: A spray for treating fleas and flea eggs in the environment. One application lasts 12 months.

We will be happy to explain the options available and formulate an effective flea control program to suit your dog.

Worming



ROUND WORM

Virtually all puppies are born with intestinal roundworms so need to be wormed regularly. Roundworms can be passed on to humans and pose a potential health risk (see below). We advise **Milbemax Flavour Tablets**.

Worming Regime – give Milbemax tablets

Every 2 weeks until 3 months of age then
Every 4 weeks until 6 months of age then
Every 3 months for the rest of your puppy's life

Toxocara (Roundworm) is a human health hazard –

Toxocara canis affects all dogs and puppies and can cause ill-thrift, poor growth and other signs of disease in dogs. Infection of humans with Toxocara in the UK is a common infection, particularly in young children, and causes variable symptoms in response to the larvae migrating through the tissues. Probably the most serious concern is blindness or serious vision loss which can occur when larvae are trapped in the eye. Over 100 people are affected in this way in the U.K. each year.



Penstone Pet Food

We have our own hypoallergenic food range which is suitable for all sizes, life-stages and lifestyles of dog. Our **SUPER PREMIUM** range has no wheat gluten and has added Yucca to aid digestion. Our **NATURALE** range has no gluten, dairy, soya, eggs, beef, pork or wheat and has added chicory, yucca and dandelion and Omega 3.

Our food is made with the finest raw ingredients by Europe's largest own label pet food manufacturer based in the UK and at a very affordable price.

..... Ask for a **FREE** sample of puppy food at reception

TRACER Microchip



For peace of mind we recommend permanent identification of your puppy with a TRACER microchip to enable quick repatriation should your pet be lost.

Implantation is a simple, inexpensive and quick procedure which involves injecting a tiny chip, (size of a rice grain) under the skin during a normal consultation.

Neutering



Castration of male dogs: This can be done to control unwelcome sexual behaviour, roaming, some forms of aggressive or unsocial behaviour and to prevent unwanted pregnancies.

Spaying of bitches: We advise all bitches are spayed to prevent unwanted puppies, false pregnancy, unwanted attention from male dogs and, if done before the second season, to significantly reduce the risk of developing mammary tumours later in life. Bitches usually have their first season from the age of 6 months but it can be up to 18 months of age.

Timing for Neutering:

Males – from 6 months of age

Females – 2-3 months after the end of the first season

In the short term, pregnancy can be prevented by a heat suppression injection given on the first day of the season. Should an unwanted mating occur a course of two injections can be given to terminate pregnancy up to 45 days after mating.

Dental Care



INFLAMED GUMS



RETAINED BABY TEETH

Puppies lose their baby teeth around 4 – 6 months of age when the adult teeth erupt. If your puppy has any baby teeth that do not fall out after the adult teeth are through we advise these are removed so that they do not interfere with the development of the adult teeth.

To help you keep your dog's teeth and mouth healthy for life we suggest the following dental care regime –

Tooth brushing: If you start routine tooth brushing at an early age your puppy should soon get used to it. It is important to use toothpaste designed for dogs and to brush daily. We stock various toothpastes and brushes suitable for dogs e.g. Logic Oral Hygiene Gel, CET poultry and Dentagen toothpaste.

Dental Diets: In general, dogs fed dry food suffer less dental disease than those fed on a wet diet.

Oral Dental Chews: Chewing is beneficial in helping to reduce dental disease and the increased saliva production also plays a role in helping to rinse the mouth. Choose a chew your dog will enjoy. In our own pet food range we have dental sticks and snack bones that can be given daily to promote oral health.

Regularly examine your dog's mouth: You should try to examine your dog's mouth regularly. Watch out for red gums, tartar build up, smelly breath, cavities, loose or damaged teeth, pus and swellings. If you have any concerns you should book your dog in for a veterinary dental examination.

Pet Insurance

Veterinary medicine has become more sophisticated over recent years and as a consequence the cost of treatment is rising. Costs for even non-serious conditions can run to several hundred or even thousands of pounds.

Penstone Veterinary Group recommends the principle of veterinary insurance to protect against the unexpected fees incurred following illness or accident.

Insuring your pet will enable you to take advantage of the best treatments available without the worry of what it is going to cost.