

Puppy Class



The period between 3 and 14 weeks of age is a vital window in a puppy's development-it's the best time for them to learn new behaviors and become comfortable with a wide range of experiences, animals, and people. To help you make the most of this critical stage, we offer an evening Puppy Class.

It's open to all puppies who have received their first vaccination and are under 14 weeks old.

What is it?



- An evening Puppy Class, led by a Registered Veterinary Nurse and a retired guide dog trainer, every Wednesday at 6:30pm at our Kirkham branch on Hillock Lane (PR4 1TP).
- The full course is £40 and includes four one-hour sessions over four weeks, plus a free follow-up consult with an RVN at a convenient time in the weeks afterward.
- We cover essential puppy topics such as socialisation, nutrition, biting, and training tips. Puppies also get valuable social time with other dogs and people to support their development.
- Classes are limited to 6 puppies, with a minimum of 3 required to run. We'll keep you informed if any postponements occur.
- The structure is flexible and can be adapted to the class depending on problems or specific areas to work on. All lessons are informal, friendly and judgement-free. All pups and parents pick things up at different paces and no question is a 'silly' one, so bring any queries along for discussion!

Course Structure



WEEK ONE

- **Socialisation**- 2 or 3 puppies are let off the lead to interact for a short period of time to avoid hyperactivity and over-tiredness.
- **Training**- watch and sit

WEEK TWO

- **Socialisation**
- **Recap on watch and sit**
- **Separation anxiety** discussed
- **Training**- walking on the lead and recall

WEEK THREE

- **Socialisation**
- **Recap on recall and loose-lead walking**
- **Diet and nutrition** discussed
- **Training**- wait and stay

WEEK FOUR

- **Socialisation**
- **Training**- formal recall and leave it/take it
- **Puppies perform their trick and graduate puppy class!**

FOLLOW-UP WEEK

- A 20-minute follow-up consult with an RVN, at a time that suits you within the following few weeks.
- This 1-1 session desensitizes your puppy to the consult room and examination process, whilst addressing any ongoing concerns or training problems.
- We'll also cover breed-specific health and dietary advice tailored to your puppy.



What to bring?



- **A secure collar and lead** (ideally not an extendable lead). Two fingers should fit between the collar and puppy's neck and it should not come off when pulled towards the nose.
- **High value treats** such as: cheese, ham, sausage. There are lots of distractions at puppy class so high value treats are needed to gain attention. Treats that are soft and can be nibbled on the go can be better for some aspects of the training!
- **Friends, family and children** who are engaging and helping with training too - it makes things easier if everybody at home is on board with the training to keep consistent.