



TREMAIN VETERINARY GROUP

INFORMATION LEAFLET

PUPPIES

We would like to take this opportunity to welcome you and your puppy to Tremain Veterinary Group.

Whether you are an experienced dog owner or this is your first puppy this is an exciting and challenging time.

Bringing your puppy in for a health check you have already taken the first steps in veterinary care for your puppy.

Here are some basic guidelines for the more common questions.

Vaccinations

Your puppy will receive the first vaccination from 6 weeks and the second 4 weeks later. Your puppy will be vaccinated against leptospirosis, distemper, hepatitis, parvovirus and parainfluenza virus.

Your puppy will be fully covered 1 week after the second vaccine, he/she can then go outside and socialise with other dogs. The vaccine needs to be boosted every year.

Kennel cough maybe required for your dog to board kennels, this is best given at least 72 hours before the date your dog is due to be kennelled.

Worming

It is important to worm your puppy regularly not only for the health of your puppy, but also to protect your family as some worms can pass to humans. We recommend worming every month until there are 6 months old and then every 3 months afterwards. If you have young children in the family, you should consider worming monthly. It is important that you weigh your puppy each time to dose correctly through the growing phase.

Flea Treatment

Fleas are the single most common cause of pruritus (itchiness) in dogs. Puppies very often are already affected when they are first acquired and we can recommend a good quality flea treatment for them. It is also good practice to have protection against fleas in place when your puppy starts to socialise with other dogs.



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Microchip

Microchipping is a good method of identification for your puppy.

The microchip is the size of a grain of rice and is injected under the skin between the shoulder blades. This can be done in the conscious patient at a normal consultation appointment.

The microchip scans as a number your details are then registered against that number. It is important that your details (especially your telephone numbers) are kept up to date.

Neutering

Bitches

We recommend bitches are spayed from 6 months of age if you do not intend to breed from them. The benefits of neutering are: -

- You will not run the risk of unwanted pregnancy
- The earlier she is spayed the less likely it will be that mammary tumours will develop.
- She will not develop a pyometra (life threatening uterus infection) later on in life.

Dogs

We recommend dogs are castrated from 9 months if you do not intend to breed from them. The benefits of neutering are: -

- They should not be interested in bitches in season.
- They cannot develop testicular tumours.
- They are less likely to develop prostate problems.
- Could help with antisocial behaviour, however it will NOT have a calming effect on boisterous dogs.



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Insurance

We strongly recommend insuring your puppy. It is important that you take out cover as soon as possible as any illness that develops early on may result in future exclusions on your policy.

Two important factors to consider are: -

1. Whether **LIFE TIME** COVER IS PROVIDED. This would be necessary for a variety of conditions e.g. diabetes.
2. A **FINANCIAL LIMIT** may restrict your choice of treatment options in the future. For example if your dog develops a condition that would be best treated at a referral centre.

Diet

It is important you feed a good quality puppy diet and water. We recommend either James Wellbeloved or Royal Canin. Our nursing staff will be happy to talk to you in detail about this.

NB It is important that all dietary changes are implemented slowly.