



'Dedicated to the care of your pets'

Woodcroft Vets How Do I...? Puppy Behaviour and Training Manual





Welcome to Woodcroft Veterinary Group

Here at Woodcroft Vets our primary concern is always the well-being of the pets in our care, and this has been at the heart of our service over the last 30 years

How do I...

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Stop my puppy chewing?

- 🐾 It is natural for all puppies to want to chew. From an early age they begin to lose their temporary teeth and their new permanent teeth begin to make their appearance. The sensation this process creates within the mouth makes it very satisfying for them to chew different items.
- 🐾 During the first 6 months of life puppies also go through a developmental stage which increases their oral behaviour - thus they wish to investigate items using their mouth. Both these factors contribute to the puppy chewing stage we all know and often dread!
- 🐾 Accidents will happen and we have all experienced times when puppies have chewed or destroyed a valuable piece of clothing or furniture. The aim at this time of their life is not to eliminate chewing, as this is not possible, but rather to plan to provide suitable outlets for this behaviour and prevent the aforementioned accidents from happening!
- 🐾 Rather than attempting to stop chewing altogether, the aim is to provide alternative outlets for the behaviour. Therefore try and give your puppy different items to chew which will be more rewarding than the remote control, chair legs or sofa.
- 🐾 Different dogs have different preferences for chewing -

Some like to pull stuffing out of toys - so provide them with safe soft toys so that they do not focus on your cushions.

All puppies should be provided with rubber toys which “give” when chewed, thus providing a pleasant sensation. The Kong Puppy® or Havaball® toys are both suitable for this.

They can also both be used to dispense food for your puppy in such a way that provides mental stimulation and positive reward for focusing on these items rather than furniture.

- 🐾 If you find your puppy chewing on something inappropriate then gently remove the item and immediately give him an alternative chew toy to focus on. If he appears disinterested in this alternative toy then you need to provide something which will catch his interest. Toys such as the Kong will usually provide immediate distraction when they contain food items.
- 🐾 If there is a particular item or piece of furniture your puppy returns to time and time again despite your best efforts, aim to make this item repellent to your puppy. You need to make sure that it is not associated with punishment on your part as this only means the pup will go back to it when your back is turned. Use a little diluted eucalyptus oil on the items which should encourage him to give them a wide berth! Wear gloves when applying the oil, apply only a small amount and check that it will not damage the item before use. Watch your puppy's reaction and ensure he will not still attempt to chew despite the horrible smell!
- 🐾 Never punish your dog directly for chewing - remember it is normal behaviour. Shouting and smacking will only serve to teach your dog to avoid chewing the item when you are present and may have long term effects on his bonding with you.

WOODCROFT VETS

PUPPY PARTIES

Over the years, our puppy parties have proved extremely popular. Puppy parties are run on a weekly basis at Offerton, Heaton Moor & Handforth veterinary centres.

Puppies can attend after their first vaccination, but not after their second. Puppy parties are one of the best ways you can help socialise your puppy. Puppies are able to play together, as well as meet different types of people, all under the guidance and supervision of our experienced veterinary staff.

Given this opportunity at a young age, puppies are more likely to interact favourably with other dogs and people later on in life. Our nurses will often give a short presentation about one or two aspects of your puppy's development e.g. training, neutering, diet, flea and worming control.



Our puppy parties are held at:

- Handforth
01625 533 654
- Offerton
0161 456 3473
- Heaton Moor
0161 442 9462

Please call to book a place.



DATES TO REMEMBER!

January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
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Don't forget to note down-

1st and 2nd vaccinations

Puppy party Dates

Neutering check at 6 months

Flea & Worming treatment dates

Important milestones for your puppy

Here at Woodcroft Veterinary Group we believe in feeding only the highest quality nutrition which is why we only recommend you to feed ROYAL CANIN® Veterinary diets to your pet

PEDIATRIC

Junior diets to provide safe growth for your puppy



1

NUTRIENTS NOT VARIETY

The difference : a complete Nutrient approach.

Complete and balanced pet food consisting of nutrients perfectly responding to the nutritional needs with proteins, fatty acids, fibres, vitamins.

2

RAW MATERIAL QUALITY

Very precise specifications for raw materials :

- Reduced variability of the nutritional profile from one batch to the next.
- Limited number of suppliers with very strict selection.
- Strict nutritional controls inbound analysis of raw materials.

3

HIGH DIGESTIBILITY

Outstanding digestibility thanks to strict selection of raw materials:

- 90% protein digestibility.

Useful information

Lots of detailed information can be found on our website, woodcroftvets.com and on our Facebook page. There is information on vaccination, disease prevention, disease conditions of dogs & cats and our staff & facilities. Our courageous pets section contains interesting photos and stories about our patients.

Vaccination

The injection given to your puppy ensures your pet is protected against the major diseases (e.g. Distemper, Parvovirus, Hepatitis and Leptospirosis)

Annual vaccination is recommended.

Kennel Cough

We recommend all dogs are vaccinated against "kennel cough". This vaccine is discounted if given with the annual booster. This disease is also known as infectious bronchitis. If your dog has to spend any time in boarding establishments, they will usually insist he or she is covered by this vaccination. Even if your dog does not go into kennels, we still recommend he or she is vaccinated as many dogs catch the disease outside of kennels, whilst socialising with other dogs.

See woodcroftvets.com "Pet Factsheets" section on kennel cough. Annual vaccination is recommended.

Neutering

We recommend neutering of dogs from an early age for a number of reasons (often at 6 months of age, or 12 to 18 months of age for bigger male dogs). Entire dogs are more likely to roam increasing the risk of loss, fighting injuries and road traffic accidents. Neutering will prevent unwanted pregnancies.

Lungworm (Angiostrongylus Vasorum)

Lungworm is a relatively new disease to the North-West. It is an important parasite of dogs and foxes, transmitted via contact with slugs and snails. We have diagnosed several cases. Symptoms are very variable, and can affect the respiratory tract, nervous system, eye and blood clotting. Fatalities have been reported with this parasite.

We recommend "Advocate" spot-on in dogs to help prevent this becoming a problem. "Advocate" also kills fleas, ear mites, sarcoptic mange mites and intestinal roundworms. See woodcroftvets.com and click on the "links" tab for more information about Angiostrongylus.

Dental Care

Preventative dental care is advised for all dogs. For the dos and don'ts of dental care see woodcroftvets.com "links" tab, for expert advice from our veterinary dentist. Dried food and daily tooth brushing are often recommended. Brushing can be demonstrated at one of our free nurse clinics.

Ticks

Our experience of ticks is that they are a nuisance and unpleasant but tick-borne infectious disease seems uncommon in our practice. Ticks can be removed manually with a special device ("O'Tom Hook") or the "Seresto" collar can be used safely with "Advocate" spot on to give 6 months tick control. If your dog is regularly exposed to ticks we strongly recommend routine prevention with the "Seresto" collar or "Practic" spot on.

Please note ticks are of a greater concern in transmitting diseases to your dog if you travel abroad with your pet.

Roundworm (Toxocara Canis/Cati)

Roundworm infections are common in puppies and less common in adult dogs. Eggs are spread via faeces. Uncommonly, Toxocara can cause serious ill-effects in humans. Control of the disease involves regular worming, collecting and disposing of dog/cat faeces and human hygiene (hand washing) after outside play, gardening etc (especially for children).

See woodcroftvets.com "links" tab for information from the NHS on Toxocariasis in humans.

Fleas

Fleas are common parasites in dogs and we recommend monthly preventative treatment. We may advise you to use a specific product, often "Advocate" spot on for dogs (see the advice under "Lungworm" for more information).

Insurance

We recommend all dogs have medical insurance cover. We are very fortunate to be able to provide a high standard of medical and surgical care for many diseases and accidental injuries.

As a referral centre and "RCVS Hospital" status practice we have access to many disciplines including orthopaedics, dermatology, ophthalmology, internal medicine, general surgery (inc 'key hole surgery'), cardiology, behavioural medicine, hydrotherapy and both MRI and CT imaging. Thus, we aim to provide the highest standard of care for your pet without travelling to distant alternative centres. However, as investigations and treatments for animals have advanced, so have costs.

Medical insurance cover permits you to be able to provide the highest standard of care for your pet without worrying about ongoing costs. We recommend "cover for life" type policies.

Please note if you change insurance companies during the life of your pet, from company A to company B, conditions that have arisen whilst you have been with company A, will not likely be covered by company B. Company B will likely class these as pre-existing (before insurance was started with them), and they may not cover these conditions.

Diet

Nutrition is very important for the development of your puppy. We recommend Royal Canin dry diets which have been well researched to optimise health and nutrition and cater to the age and size of your pet

We provide a voucher for a free bag of Royal Canin food.



Practices

Urgent cases can always be seen the same day and our seven practices are all computer networked to ensure your pet's clinical records are available to all our vets at all our centres.

Woodcroft Veterinary Group Wilmslow

Summerfield Veterinary Centre, Dean Row,
Wilmslow SK9 2TA

Monday to Friday 8:30am – 6:30pm
Saturday 9:00am – 1:00pm

01625 530111

Woodcroft Veterinary Group Bramhall

1 Maple Road, Bramhall,
Stockport SK7 2DH

Monday to Friday 8:30am – 6:30pm

0161 440 8281

Woodcroft Veterinary Group Handforth

174 Wilmslow Road, Handforth,
Wilmslow SK9 3LF

Monday to Friday 8:30am – 6:30pm
Saturday 8:30am – 12:00pm

01625 533654

Woodcroft Veterinary Group Offerton

139 Lisburn Lane, Offerton,
Stockport SK2 5RH

Monday to Friday 8:30am – 6:30pm
Saturday 8:30am – 12:30pm

0161 456 3473

Woodcroft Veterinary Group Cheadle

Councillor Lane, Cheadle,
Stockport SK8 5NU

Monday to Friday 8:00am – 7:00pm
Saturday 8:30am – 5:00pm
Sunday 10:00am – 4:00pm

0161 485 8444

Woodcroft Veterinary Group Heaton Moor

17 Heaton Moor Road,
Stockport SK4 4LT

Monday 8:30am – 7:00pm
Tuesday to Friday 8:30am – 6:30pm
Saturday 8:30am – 12:30pm

0161 442 9462

Queens Road Veterinary Hospital

2 Queens Road, Cheadle Hulme,
Stockport SK8 5LU

Open 24 hours a day

Hospitalised patients

0161 486 2399

Cheadle Hulme A&E Vets (emergencies)

0161 486 2355



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woodcroftvets.com



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facebook.com/woodcroftvets



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[@woodcroftvets](https://twitter.com/woodcroftvets)