

VACCINATION

The protection of puppy from Distemper, Hepatitis, Leptospirosis, Parvo and Coronavirus is essential throughout his life, these are potentially killer diseases.

In line with modern vaccine developments we can now offer the latest, safe and effective vaccination for your puppy. Not only does it cover the above but including coronavirus adds extra protection. It has been proven that puppies who are unlucky enough to pick up parvo on its own will usually survive with good extensive treatment but invariably will die inspite of treatment if they also have coronavirus infection.

The new vaccine eliminates this and allows us to initiate vaccination from 6 weeks of age and finish the course at 10 weeks. This allows puppies to safely go out and socialise from 12 weeks of age. Vaccination must be boosted every year of your dogs life to keep up the protection.

WORMING

A young puppy can shed tremendous numbers of worm eggs in his faeces. We recommend worming him each time he comes in for his vaccinations and even more frequently if you suspect puppy may have a lot of worms. This is particularly important if the puppy is in contact with young children as they are most at risk of getting the eggs into their mouths. As puppy grows up he should be de-wormed every 3 months for life.

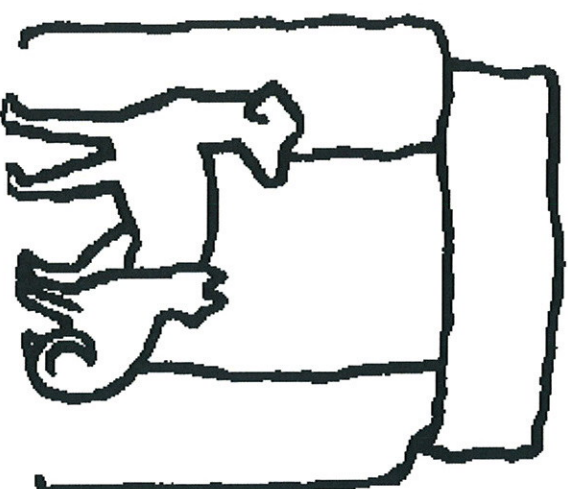
FLEAS

Fleas can be a problem on the puppy causing discomfort and if swallowed fleas transmit tapeworms to your pet. Please discuss an effective and safe flea control program with any member of the team.

INSURANCE

Most pet owners agree that insurance is the best way of guaranteeing their pets the best veterinary care when it is needed. Insurance gives peace of mind because it ensures that cost will not be a factor when important and sometimes costly procedures are required. Don't make the mistake of forgetting about insurance until it is too late. We are able to offer an insurance cover note for puppy when the first vaccination takes place, this is in conjunction with Pet Plan Insurance.

STONEHENGE VETERINARY HOSPITAL



"Because We Care"

YOUR NEW PUPPY

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YOU AND YOUR NEW PUPPY

Having just brought home your new puppy, you will be eager to do what is best for the new arrival. There are some very important points worth taking note of now, because doing the right thing at this sensitive stage in your puppy's development will have lifelong benefit.

An important point to remember, is that all dogs are pack animals and respect and obey the pack leader. Your puppy will regard you, your family and other household pets as part of the new pack. From day one puppy must know that you are the pack leader, and it is bottom dog in the pack. Puppy will come to know that you, as pack leader will protect it and feed it and make decisions for it. He will be much more contented knowing exactly where he stands. If you don't establish this position early in puppy's life, then puppy will attempt to become pack leader, with subsequent aggressive or dominant behaviour.

FEEDING

For the next year your puppy is going to develop the body he will have for the rest of his life. This obvious statement means that correct feeding at this stage will go a long way towards maximising your pup's chances of optimum health. Because this is such an important aspect of puppy care, and because prevention is better than cure, we recommend Hill's Science Plan as a suitable food. We believe it is the best way to start your new pup off on a long and healthy life. For any problems or queries you may have with regard to feeding, please come along to our Nurses Clinic where help and guidance is freely available.

SOCIALISATION AND HABITUATION

You will notice that your new puppy is very inquisitive and often quite willing to investigate anything new in his environment. During this early stage in his development he is extremely adaptable and will quickly become used to new experiences. This is an ideal time for him to learn the do's and don'ts of dog behaviour as well as becoming used to things such as cars, people and strange noises. After about sixteen weeks this adaptability is lost forever.



If he has not been properly socialised by this age he may never become a well adjusted dog.

Because this is so important we recommend attending our puppy parties for puppies aged up to 15 weeks. The aim of the parties are to allow puppy to mingle with other puppies of a similar age, and to become accustomed to other people handling them. This is known as socialisation. Some basic obedience and training techniques for practising at home are also covered.

Playing with other dogs and people at home will also teach him some important lessons in dog socialisation which lessens the tendency to aggression or fear of other dogs. These friends should be even tempered and up to date with their vaccinations. They should play together in an area that is not frequented by any other dogs which may not have been vaccinated. Your own garden is probably the best.

We do have an excellent little booklet which discusses socialisation and habituation in greater detail. Please ask at reception if you would like to purchase a copy.

NEUTERING

We do recommend that your bitch puppy should be spayed at 6 months, or just after if you do not intend her to have puppies. Spaying almost eradicates the risk of mammary cancers and prevents the distressing condition of pyometra which may develop later in life. Further information is available from any member of the team.

Neutering of your male puppy is very dependent upon his temperament, which is often difficult to assess at an early age. The best time to discuss castration is when puppy is about 6 months old and attends out adolescent assessment clinic with the nurses.

AND MOST IMPORTANTLY, ENJOY YOUR PUPPY AS A DELIGHTFUL ADDITION TO YOUR FAMILY!