



## YOUR NEW PUPPY

### Settling in

Bring your puppy to see us after you have had him/her at your home for a couple of days. This gives you time to notice anything which you want to ask us about as well as giving him/her a chance to settle in.

### Feeding

We recommend that you only feed “puppy” food. This could be wet or dry or a mixture of both and should be a “complete” diet rather than just a mixer. Higher priced diets reflect higher quality, more digestible ingredients.

Frequency of feeding:

- 4 meals daily until 12 weeks old.
- 3 meals daily until 6 months old.
- 2 meals thereafter

Water must be available at all times and never withheld.

### Worming

We can supply you with a suitable wormer that treats for roundworms and tapeworms.

Our recommended schedule is:

- dose every 2 weeks until 12 weeks old, then
- dose every month until 6 months old

From 6 months onwards, we recommend worming every 3 months.

*Remember:* roundworms in dogs are of public health importance.

### Flea treatment

Fleas are prevalent all year round so we recommend you protect your dog using a recommended spot-on or oral product. Your vet can discuss the options available and what would best suit your pup.

### Vaccination

**First dose DHP + L4:** From 6 weeks onwards (Distemper, Hepatitis, Parvovirus and Leptospirosis)

**Second dose DHP:** 10 weeks old + (Distemper, Hepatitis and Parvovirus)

**Second dose L4:** 4 weeks after first dose (Leptospirosis)

Kennel Cough vaccine may also be given during the puppy course.

Vaccinations then need to be given annually thereafter.

### Taking your puppy out and about

Your pup is protected against DHP 1 week after the last DHP vaccine. However, they won't be protected against Leptospirosis until 3 weeks after their second L4 vaccine. We suggest getting your puppy out 1 week after their DHP vaccine but avoiding wet areas/rivers/woods where Leptospirosis is more prevalent.

The period from 6 to 16 weeks is very important in the development of your puppy. It is in this short time that the pattern of your puppy's behaviour is set for life. If it is well socialised during this time - by meeting all sorts of people, animals, machines and environments - then you will have an outgoing and confident dog rather than a fearful, nervous one. Therefore, as soon as your pup is protected by his/her vaccination course, then get him/her socialised as soon as possible.

### Puppy School

On Monday evenings we host puppy classes in association with Charlie Clarricoates Dog Training Centre. The course consists of 6 one-hour sessions and covers basic training and socialisation.

Your pup can start from as early as 1 week after their first vaccination, as the classes are held on a puppy paddock where no other dogs have access.

Please contact reception for more information and to register for these classes.

### Insurance

We strongly recommend that you insure your puppy in case he/she should ever fall ill or gets hurt and requires veterinary treatment. There are many policies to choose from but we would recommend you get “life-long” cover rather than one that only covers for a specific illness for one year and then stops. We are pleased to be able to offer you a 5 week free insurance with Agria. Please speak to a member of the team for more information.

### Microchipping

Since April 2016 it is compulsory to microchip your dog and register your details on a central database.

### Neutering

It is recommended that bitches that are not going to be bred are spayed to prevent un-wanted pregnancies or illnesses associated with the uterus/ovaries. We would normally perform this procedure 3 months following their first season or prior to their first season. This can be discussed in more detail with your vet as each dog is assessed on an individual basis.

Male dogs can be castrated from 8 months old, but again, the timing can be discussed in more detail with your vet.