

# Level 2 Veterinary Nursing Assistant Diploma – Small Animal



## Overview

The Veterinary Nursing Assistant Diploma is designed to give staff the confidence to support the qualified veterinary nurse and veterinary surgeon in the clinical setting. The course will enable them to develop an underpinning knowledge and basic nursing skills. The course can allow for progression onto the Veterinary Nursing Diploma. Staff do not need to be employed in a registered Training Practice to undertake this qualification. This course is part time via supported study in college and distance learning.

The Veterinary Nursing Assistant Diploma will take approximately one year to complete and is delivered by a unique blended learning approach utilising classroom taught session, live webinar lessons and a bespoke e-learning platform. Students will be required to attend college one day every twelve weeks and attend 'live' webinar lessons every two weeks for the duration of the course, helping the learner to develop a strong knowledge base enabling them to become an excellent nurse assistant. The college attendance days also provide excellent student support and learning, enabling students to progress better and have high achievement outcomes.

Alongside the theory component there is a strong emphasis on practical skills. The student will be required to either be employed in a veterinary practice or to undertake a clinical placement during their time studying the course to ensure that they cover the required clinical hours. During the clinical placement the student will be required to complete an online Central Skills Log (CSL) of clinical skills.

*Please note that the practice does not need to be an RCVS accredited training practice.*

The course is assessed by two formal examinations that the student will be required to pass which are taken at set stages during the course.

This qualification, in combination with a full level 2 qualification in Maths and English (e.g. GCSE Grade A\*-C or Level 2 Functional Skills) will allow you to apply for the Level 3 Diploma in Veterinary Nursing, subject to employment in a veterinary practice that is approved to train veterinary nurses (a TP or aTP).

## College attendance

The course is delivered by college attendance one day every twelve weeks, live webinar lessons every two weeks, and via our E-learning platform. The unique delivery of this blended learning approach allows us to provide taught sessions to students. Students' progress is better by having regular contact with a tutor. We help you progress better, address any learning needs and have a higher likelihood of success in the written examinations by providing structured class revision sessions.

## Content

The following units will be studied during the course:

- VNASA1 Workplace legislation and infection control

- VNASA2 Animal husbandry and enrichment
- VNASA3 Animal health and welfare
- VNASA4 Basic anatomy and physiology
- VNASA5 Patient care
- VNASA6 Principles of veterinary nursing assistant support

## Entry

There are no formal academic entry requirements to study for the Veterinary Nursing Assistant Diploma, but the following criteria must be achieved:

- Be employed within a veterinary practice or volunteering for a minimum of 10 hours per week for the full duration of the course
- Provide a reference from the employer supporting your application confirming that you are employed or have undertaken voluntary work prior to starting the programme
- Having a mentor within practice
- Be competent in reading and writing
- Complete a pre-course interview and attend a compulsory induction day

## Assessment

Knowledge and understanding will be assessed by:

- Assignments set by Central Qualifications and marked by Abbeydale
- Multiple choice examination set and marked by Central Qualifications. The examination is being held at Abbeydale

Practical skills will be assessed by:

- An electronic work-based progress log (Central Skills Log)

Apprenticeship funded learners will have to complete a practical assessment and an oral viva.

## Fees

For further information about course fees please visit our website or contact Abbeydale directly.

## Career Progression

The Veterinary Nursing Assistant Diploma is a stand-alone qualification enabling successful candidates to work as a Veterinary Nurse Assistant. Many Veterinary Nursing Assistants go on to train as Veterinary Nurses. The L2 Veterinary Nursing Assistant Diploma alongside a L2 qualification in numeracy and literacy e.g. GCSE maths and English C grade or above (4-9)/Functional Skill Level 2 will allow entry to the L3 Veterinary Nursing Diploma.

## Why study at the VNA at Abbeydale?

### 1. Career-focused courses with great employment prospects

Abbeydale will help to kick-start a successful career, having many successful learners gaining or staying in employment and progressing onto the Veterinary Nursing Diploma.

### 2. Hands-on learning with qualified Veterinary Nurses

Our courses are taught by experienced qualified Veterinary Nurses, and you will benefit from their insight, experience and support as they help to prepare you for your future career.

### **3. Personal support before, during and after your studies**

Starting at Abbeydale is full of new opportunities and challenges. That is why we are here to help you every step of the way with advice and support on your application, careers, fees, funding and academic support.

### **4. Quality teaching and examination success**

Abbeydale uses a varying range of methods to deliver teaching, with a strong focus on individual and small-group tuition to maintain teaching excellence which provided learners with a variety of learning experiences.

### **Celebrating success**

When you have completed your qualification with Abbeydale you will be invited to Central Qualifications graduations ceremony.

This amazing day is held in the beautiful Central Hall, Westminster each year. It is a chance to celebrate with family and friends and collect a certificate and badge of achievement.