

West Ridge Veterinary Practice
New Graduate Veterinary Internship 2021

Job description

The Intern will be appointed as a full time employee of West Ridge Veterinary Practice Ltd with a fixed term contract of 364 days.

During this period, the Intern will be expected to work:

- 13 Weekends, comprising Friday 1800 to Monday 0900
- 50 weekday nights (Monday to Thursday inclusive), comprising 1800 to 0900 the next morning
- 2 bank holidays
- 240 weekdays (Monday to Friday)

This effectively equates to 4 weeks holiday per year, plus most bank holidays, with a duty rota of one in four nights and weekends.

The Internship will be split into two phases with Phase 2 starting once Phase 1 is fully completed. It is envisaged that Phase 1 will be approximately six months in duration and will be decided by the regular reviews, casebook completion and competency record. The final decision in the transition from Phase 1 to Phase 2 will be made by the supervising senior vets and the Director.

Phase 1.

The intern will be fully mentored during phase one, with a senior vet nominated to oversee the activities and learning of the intern. During this period the Intern will buddy-up with the senior vet to provide out of hours cover, working under the instruction and supervision of the senior vet.

During the normal working hours, the intern will:

Be supervised, instructed and mentored by a senior vet

Be provided with suitable and appropriate instruction and supervision to complete the following list of core skill in order to progress to phase 2.

During Phase 1, the Intern will be directly supervised by a senior vet until a core skill has been satisfactorily completed and the senior supervising vet has signed the **competency record** to allow the Intern to perform the task unsupervised.

1) Farm animal

- Basic veterinary tasks for normal animal husbandry, including animal handling, restraint, casting etc
- Mobility scoring and lameness assessments and diagnosis
- Mastitis monitoring, test scoring and milk sampling
- Blood sampling and surveillance strategies for infectious disease surveillance
- Castration and dehorning of cattle of all ages
- Foot trimming and first aid for feet

- Fertility examinations, including pregnancy diagnosis with and without ultrasound, NVO examinations and diagnosis, uterine conditions including endometritis, metritis, pyometra etc.
- Clinical examination of sick animals, including history, examination, diagnosis, prognosis and treatment.
- Dystocia cases, including the diagnosis and correction of mal-presentations, relative foetal oversize, incomplete dilations, uterine torsions etc.
- Surgical procedures including caesarean sections, displaced abomasum ops, digital amputations.

2) **Companion animal**

- Consultation procedures including the following consultation skills
 - History taking
 - Clinical examination
 - Diagnosis procedures
 - Prognosis discussions
 - Treatment options
 - Owner communications
 - Estimates and pricing
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- Diagnostic procedures
 - Radiography using digital xray machine
 - Soft tissue ultrasound
 - Laboratory procedures including the use of the in-house laboratory equipment
- Anaesthetic, sedation and restraint procedures
 - Use of all available medicines and the anaesthetic machines and monitoring apparatus to safely induce and monitor anaesthesia
- Surgical procedures
 - Neutering of young and adult cats
 - Spaying of young and adult bitches
 - Castration of young and adult dogs
 - Lump removals
 - Blocked cat procedures

3) Official veterinarian

Enrolment and qualification as a TB tester

Perform TB testing on cattle, including all the procedures and processes of performing the test, completing the necessary documentation and informing owners of their obligations in accordance with XL Farmcare policy.

Phase 2

Once phase 1 has been completed satisfactorily, including the assessment of competence in all the listed procedures by the nominated mentor, the Intern will progress to phase 2.

During phase 2, the Intern will have more independence to perform tasks and deliver veterinary medicine to clients with less supervision. However, the Intern will be fully supported and mentored by a nominated senior vet throughout phase 2.

During phase 2, the Intern will be instructed in the following veterinary skills, as well as continuing to develop the phase 1 skills

- **Farm animal Herd health planning**
 - Completion of a Red Tractor compliant herd health plan
 - Infectious disease management including BVD control and eradication, Johnes Management Plans and other infectious disease management and control.
 - Respiratory disease investigations
 - Mastitis investigations
 - Lameness investigations
 - Biosecurity management

- **Small animal disease management**
 - Work ups of difficult medical cases, including examinations, laboratory diagnostic and monitoring and case management
 - Management of chronic conditions such as musculoskeletal conditions, skin conditions, dietary management etc

By the completion of Phase 2, the intern would be expected to be fully competent and proficient and a Mixed Veterinary Practitioner. A personal file, including a checklist of all core competencies, and a report from each supervising vet will be provided on completion of Phase 2.

Progress will be managed and monitored by:

- Regular supervision and monitoring by senior vets on a day to day basis
- A formal meeting and appraisal of progress every 8 weeks with the Director and one senior vet

- Maintenance of a **Competency Record**, completed by the supervising vet once the Intern has reached a level of proficiency in the skill which would allow them to work unsupervised in that skill.
- Creation of a case log to include at least 3 clinical case reports from Farm Animal and Small Animal medical or surgical cases, in each of Phase 1 and Phase 2.

Rewards

The Intern will be provided with

- The free use of a practice vehicle, including all fuel and maintenance and private use within the UK
- 8 days of formal CPD to be arranged with the Director, including course fees, accommodation and subsistence (Generally attendance at London Vet Show, VetSouth, BCVA Congress, BCVA Foundation Course, VDS Communication course for New Grads etc etc.)
- Full professional indemnity insurance and support through VDS
- Practice based membership of BVA, BSAVA and BCVA
- A salary of £1,600 per month during Phase 1
- A salary of £2,300 per month during Phase 2
- 50% of any recruitment fees (eg, Recruitment agency fees, early settlement fees with a previous employer etc) will be deducted from the salary over the first six months in equal instalments.
- Accommodation will not be provided, although it may be possible to use the West Ridge flat in Tiverton at a subsidised rent of £100 per week to include all services.

Work Split

During Phase 1, the Intern's working time will be equally divided between Farm Animal clinical work, Small animal clinical work with some TB testing.

Some Small Animal work may be at Park Hill Veterinary Clinic where there are small animal specialists, experienced veterinary support staff, and excellent facilities and resources.

During Phase 2, there will be flexibility to increase the proportion of Farm Animal or Small Animal work if a preference develops. However, throughout the internship, it will be expected that the Intern will perform TB tests on 10,000 cows (equivalent to approximately 200 animals per week, which at our standard testing rate equates to an average of 7 hours testing per week.)