

The logo for West Ridge Veterinary Practice features the text "West Ridge Veterinary Practice" in a dark green, serif font. The text is centered over a background that is light blue at the top and transitions into a bright green, rounded shape at the bottom, resembling a hill or a stylized landscape.

# West Ridge Veterinary Practice

## **Veterinary Nurse West Ridge Winkleigh**

West Ridge Veterinary Practice comprises an independent mixed veterinary practice in a rural area of Mid Devon. The practice has farm, equine and small animal departments and works from three sites.

Our Winkleigh Surgery is a rural veterinary practice in the centre of an attractive Mid Devon village, with a growing small animal workload. The small animal veterinary work comprises high quality traditional first opinion practice for cats, dogs and other pets, but also some specialist backyard poultry work where we perform operations and procedures on prized and pet poultry from all over the South West.

### **Job Description:**

This new position will comprise the role of a qualified veterinary nurse to assist our veterinary and support team to provide quality health care to the pets and companion animals of our loyal clients in and around the village of Winkleigh.

The surgery is quite small, has a small tight knit team, and generally has just one senior small animal in attendance between 0900 and 1800 each weekday and each Saturday morning. We intend to expand the hours from 0830 weekdays and all day Saturday to 6.00pm to meet the increasing demand and the difficulties of coping with extended consultation times under Covid regulations. There will also be junior vets in attendance during part of the day to assist with routine ops and procedures while the senior vet is consulting.

The role will consist of:

- Helping organise the working day with consultations, operations and procedures
- Admitting animals for pre-booked operations and procedures from 0830 each morning
- Assisting with consultations, including running pre-op checks, post-op checks, routine parasite checks and other nurse appointments.
- Preparing the op and procedure list and ensuring the op room is prepared
- Assisting with ops, and all associated nursing duties
- Discharging patients at the end of the day
- Dealing with telephone consultations, repeat prescriptions, enquiries etc
- Developing and maintaining practice initiatives such as puppy parties, health schemes, newsletters and client education programmes

You will be expected to:

- Be able to work alone and with initiative
- Deal with a variety of clients, including pet owners, backyard chicken keepers and some farmers (although all the farm vets work from a different site, some farmers collect meds etc from this surgery)
- Work within a small team in a fairly compact environment
- Have empathy with the animals which attend the surgery, and their owners
- Maintain the caring and capable reputation of the practice

### **Working hours:**

There are several options for working hours but, each working day will comprise 0830 – 1800 (0900 – 1800 on Saturdays) with suitable breaks which can be taken as and when possible during the working day according to the availability of other support staff and the demands of the day.

As with any veterinary practice, there are busy periods and quieter moments. Flexibility will be appreciated. This is a small, friendly, rural practice and cannot be compared to high throughput veterinary hospital environments.

It will be expected that there will be a one in three rota for working Saturdays from 0900 – 1800, but if there was someone willing to work more Saturdays, the weekday hours can be adjusted accordingly.

- 1) Three day week: this will comprise Wednesday, Thursday, Friday each week and then one in three Saturdays (17 Saturdays per year).
- 2) Four day week: this will comprise Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday each week and then one in three Saturdays (17 Saturdays per year), with Monday off following the Saturday duty
- 3) Five day week: this will comprise Monday to Friday, with one in three (17 Saturdays per year), with the Monday off, following the Saturday duty. In this option, one or two days per week may be at our Witheridge branch.

### **Rewards:**

- The salary ranges for each option are as follows, with the higher ranges for candidates with experience, expertise and extra qualifications who can be flexible with hours and place of work.
- Each option will have four weeks holiday per year, plus bank holidays.
- Each option will have one week CPD allowance (3 days per year for option 1, 4 days for option 2, and 5 days for option 3)

Option 1) 1462 working hours per year = £14,000 - £16,500 per annum.

Option 2) 1768 working hours per year = £17,500 - £19,000 per annum.

Option 3) 2210 working hours per year = £21,000 – £25,000 per annum

Salaries are paid monthly in arrears.

Full terms and conditions of employment are detailed in the Practice Employee Handbook.