Puppy Love

Puddles on the floor, a pile of squeaky toys, a chewed slipper.....you have a new puppy!

Despite all the mess, your heart has truly been stolen by this little one who is depending on you for a lifetime of love, security, food and healthcare. At first everything is a little scary for the new family addition, especially those first few days away from Mum and the rest of the litter, but it’s usually not too long before they settle in with you. It is such an exciting and very busy time, with plenty to organise in your new puppy’s life.

**Primary Vaccinations** followed by regular boosters will help to protect your pet against infectious diseases such as Distemper, Leptospirosis and Parvovirus.

**Microchipping** to identify a dog and its owner became law in April 2016. This tiny chip holds a unique code, which displays on the special scanners used by vets, rescue centres and dog wardens. Microchipping your dog is simple and can be done in a normal consultation appointment.

**Regular Parasite Control for fleas and worms** is essential. There are many products now available, and our team can advise on those suitable for your puppy.

**Early Socialisation** is advisable, as under three months of age a dog is most responsive to accepting new encounters. Familiarising your puppy with a wide range of experiences will help their development and behaviour, so they mature into happy socialised dogs. **Ask about our Puppy Parties**, a chance for puppies to play, and owners to get advice.

Welcome to the Garston Wellness Plan

Spread the cost of your pet’s preventative healthcare into affordable monthly payments with 15% minimum savings.

We firmly believe that prevention is better than cure. Our Wellness Plan has been specifically designed so your pet receives all the essential vaccinations and parasite treatments they need, plus a whole range of additional benefits to help ensure your pet remains in the best possible health.

Our team works with you so that every aspect of your pet’s health is ideal for their age and lifestyle.

For further information, just call our friendly reception team. To join, please pop into your surgery with your bank details, and complete a simple registration form.

**Wellness Plan Benefits**

- Complete puppy/kitten vaccination course including a consultation with the vet,
- **Or** Annual booster vaccination including a consultation with the vet
- **Plus** 12 months premium flea and worm treatment
- Seasonal tick prevention

**Additional Free Benefits**

- Microchip
- Periodic nurse health checks
- Anal gland emptying and unlimited nail clips with a nurse
- Free puppy party
- Access to the Wellness Plan Team

**Savings**

- 50% off kennel cough vaccination
- 20% off all clinical diets and dentals
- 15% off all life stage diets
- 10% off neutering, all waiting room products and pet passport vaccinations

**Cost per month per pet**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cat</td>
<td>£10.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Small Dog</td>
<td>£12.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medium Dog</td>
<td>£13.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Large Dog</td>
<td>£15.60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ex-Large Dog</td>
<td>£19.80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Giant Dog</td>
<td>£23.05</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Opening Hours**

- **Monday to Friday**
  - 08.00 - 19.00
- **Saturday**
  - 08.00 - 12.00
- **Westbury**
  - 10.00 - 16.00
  - Consultations by appointment only
  - 24 hour 7 day Emergency Cover
  - by our own vets
- Call your normal surgery

- **Frome**
  - 01373 452225
- **Irowbridge**
  - 01225 754021
- **Warminster**
  - 01985 213350
- **Westbury**
  - 01373 301448

**NEW Melksham Surgery!**

Watch out for updates, and opening offers. Opening hours will be Monday to Friday 8am to 7pm

**www.garstonvets.co.uk**
Cat Carrier
.....Friend or Foe?

“Hello.....I have an appointment for my cat this morning, but I have been trying for the last half hour to get him in the cat carrier and if I do by some miracle manage it, he will yowl for the whole journey and even poo.....help!”

One of the many calls we receive at our practice and a regular one, so if you are one of these people you are not alone! It’s no joke ....the struggle, the scratches, and if you’re lucky enough to get the cat in the box the journey may be equally stressful.

Cats can be particularly bad travellers, with the problem beginning before you even start the car, as the carrier in your cat’s eyes is the.....enemy!

However, there are a few steps you can take to make the process run a little smoother. Your cat needs to become friends with the carrier. It’s no good just getting the carrier out ten minutes before the car journey! Start now, don’t rush it. Allow the carrier to become part of your cat’s every day life.

Put it in a happy, homely place.
Spray the inside with calming pheromones, available from our clinic.
Leave open and have a cozy blanket inside; even an item of your clothing as this will have your comforting scent.

Allow your cat free access to become familiar with the carrier.

Over time, you may find your cat likes to sleep in it and a happy, confident cat in a travel carrier means you are one step closer to a stress free journey to the vet!

Selecting the Puuurfect Carrier
The ideal carrier is strong, relatively lightweight, secure and easily cleanable. Cardboard carriers - bad idea, as they easily become damp and are no match for a determined escapee! If you have a carrier that opens at the front, it might be easier to stand it on its end. Gently lower your cat in (bottom first), and shut the opening before slowly returning the carrier to an upright position.

There are numerous cat carriers on the market, so here are some top tips on what to look out for.

✔ Choose one that suits the size of your cat. Large enough for them to sit or lie comfortably, but not so large that it falls about!
✔ A top opening is preferable, as you can put your cat in from above.
✔ Some robust, plastic carriers have top and front openings, with a further option of removing the whole top section. This can make veterinary examination less stressful for your cat, as the vet can perform most basic procedures with your pet still nestling in the bottom part of its familiar basket.

At Garston, we sell the Voyager multi-functional carrier system, which converts into a cat home/bed, and is also suitable for small dogs.

Comfortable carry handle - Complete ventilation - Opening top hatch
Skid resistant floor - Easy clean gutter system - Shoulder carry-strap - External access hatch, allowing you to touch your pet without the risk of it escaping

Fully opening front door with a single-handed locking mechanism.
Secures in a vehicle with a conventional seatbelt, and is approved for taking on aircraft. However, you must verify this carrier meets your airlines requirements.

Members of our Wellness Plan, will receive a 10% discount when purchasing the carrier from us.

Frome Receives Treatment!

If you have visited our Frome branch over the last few months, you probably could not miss that the builders were in! So far, we have extended our dog kennels with a lovely, modern set up with stainless steel cages, easily cleanable walls and floors and a nurse work station. For infectious cases, we now offer a new isolation facility, with outdoor run. The extra consulting room, means we can accommodate even more appointments, and offer longer consulting times.

The extension has been completed to the highest standard so that our patients, clients and staff can feel comfortable in the new surroundings. On top of all this, we now offer 24 hour nursing care at the Frome branch to all practice inpatients.

Rather than saying ‘goodbye’ to the builders, we decided to continue with refurbishing the operating theatre, prep room and cattery, to also bring these areas right up to date.

Everything should be done and dusted by the end of March 2017.

We are planning to hold an open day in the summer, so you can have a look around and inspect the newly refurbished Frome! There will be demonstrations of our services and facilities, plus various outdoor stalls and refreshments. We hope you will pop along and join in the fun, so watch for further updates!