



## ROYAL AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY, CIRENCESTER

### PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION

Foundation Degree Veterinary Nursing

Foundation Degree Veterinary Health Studies

#### **NB**

*The information contained in this document is intended only as a guide to the programme. It does not constitute a legally binding document or contract between the individual and the Royal Agricultural University.*

*The information contained herein is correct at the time of going to print, but the University reserves the right to make changes to the structure of the programme, assessment methods, etc. at any time without prior notification. Any changes made however will be made known as soon as possible.*

**Name – Sarah Reynolds**

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## ROYAL AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY, CIRENCESTER

<b>1. Awarding institution</b>	Royal Agricultural University
<b>2. Teaching institution</b>	Askham Bryan College
<b>3. Final award title(s)</b>	FdSc Veterinary Nursing FdSc Veterinary Health Studies
<b>4. Academic level on Framework for Higher Education Qualifications (FHEQ)</b>	Level 5
<b>5. UCAS code(s)</b>	D310
<b>6. Relevant QAA Subject Benchmark Statement(s) and other reference points, e.g. FD qualification benchmark</b>	<p>QAA Benchmark Statements including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Foundation Degree (2010)</li> <li>• Veterinary Science (2002)</li> <li>• Agriculture (2009)</li> <li>• Bioscience (2007)</li> <li>• General Business and Management (2007)</li> <li>• Veterinary Nursing (2015)</li> </ul> <p>Code of Practice for the Assurance of Academic Quality and Standards in Higher Education: Work Based and Placement Learning (QAA 2007);</p> <p>LANTRA Veterinary Nursing Occupational Standards;</p> <p>LANTRA Foundation Degree Sectoral Framework for Animal Health and Welfare.</p>
<b>7. Details of accreditation by a professional/statutory body</b>	<p><b>Foundation Degree Veterinary Nursing only</b></p> <p>Accredited by Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons (RCVS) and mapped to LANTRA National Occupational Standards for Veterinary Nursing and Auxiliary Services (July 2010) – see appendix 2 for mapping</p>
<b>8. Mode of study</b>	<p>Full-time study over 3 years (FdSc Veterinary Nursing). Inclusive of 1 year placement.</p> <p>Full-time study over 2 years (FdSc Veterinary Health Studies)</p>

<b>9. Language of study</b>	English
<b>10. Date of production/revision</b>	<p>Initial School validation scrutiny April 2013</p> <p>Internal VRB Revalidation November 2015.</p> <p>External VRB Revalidation March 2016.</p>
<b>11. Educational aims of the programme</b> (Specify the key aims of the programme)	<p><b><u>FdSc Veterinary Nursing</u></b></p> <p>The programme is intended to prepare students for the professional career as a veterinary nurse. The programme combines the academic aspects with a period of prolonged practical placement and accreditation/registration with RCVS.</p> <p><b><u>FdSc Veterinary Health Studies</u></b></p> <p>This programme is intended to prepare students for wider para-professional careers aligned to the veterinary industry. This course does not lead to accredited status.</p>

## 12. Educational aims of the programmes

The Foundation Degree (FdSc) Veterinary Nursing and Foundation Degree (FdSc) Veterinary Health Studies aims to:

1. Develop in each student the appropriate knowledge, understanding and skills required for a career in the veterinary nursing or wider allied animal industries;
2. Develop each student's understanding of animal science and their ability to apply scientific knowledge and concepts to practical contexts involving animal care;
3. Inculcate in students an awareness of the professional and ethical constraints of veterinary nursing and develop the skills required for the effective operation of a veterinary practice;
4. Develop each student's intellectual powers, their understanding and judgement, their ability to see relationships within what they have learned and to examine the field of study from a broader perspective;
5. Develop those skills of professional scholarship required for career management, lifelong learning and innovation;
6. Provide a lively, stimulating and challenging educational experience.

In addition, the FdSc Veterinary Nursing aims to:

7. Develop students who understand and adhere to the professional regulations and framework appropriate to their role and enable each graduate to register as an accredited Veterinary Nurse with The Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons (RCVS);

*Graduands that fulfil the criteria will be eligible to apply to the RCVS for their Licence to Practise through Registration. Evidence of full completion of a student's study may be used in the application process but normally full approval relies on the convocation of the award.*

## 13. Intended learning outcomes

On successful achievement of their FdSc Veterinary Nursing or FdSc Veterinary Health Studies award students will be able to:

### **i. Knowledge and understanding;**

- a) Demonstrate an understanding of the anatomical and physiological characteristics of a range of animals;
- b) Identify the impact of clinical conditions, veterinary diagnosis and treatment on the health of animals, and their consequent need for supportive nursing care;

- c) Devise appropriate animal nursing strategies for sick and injured animals, incorporating consideration of environmental, nutritional and behavioural needs;
- d) Appropriately advise and support clients in the care of their animals;
- e) Discuss the professional and ethical considerations of veterinary professionals and identify the appropriate skills required for the effective operation of a veterinary practice.

## **ii. Intellectual skills**

- f) Collect, select and critically assemble and evaluate information from a wide variety of information types and evidence;
- g) Marshal evidence, by reference where appropriate to primary sources and knowledge at the forefront of the discipline, and apply it in a balanced way in to an argument;
- h) Select and apply appropriate scientific or technical principles to the diagnosis, analysis and solution of complex and unpredictable problems;
- i) Demonstrate familiarity with, and an understanding of, the important facts and principles in a broad field of study and an awareness of the provisional nature of knowledge and theory;
- j) Assess the ethical dimensions and wider consequences of human activities, to optimise economic, community and environmental sustainability;

## **iii. Practical / professional skills**

- k) Select and apply clinical skills appropriate to the role;
- l) Apply knowledge and understanding of the veterinary field to make competent and informed contribution to the work environment;
- m) Identify the roles and responsibilities of each member of the veterinary team to ensure the health and welfare of the animal and understand the limitations of roles and the need to refer responsibly;
- n) Demonstrate safe working practices and advise others accordingly.

## **iv. Transferable skills**

- o) Communicate clearly and effectively using written, verbal and visual media;
- p) Manipulate and interpret complex sets of data, assess their reliability and present them in an appropriate format;

- q) Display the transferable skills and ability to acquire new competencies required for career progression, including the acquisition of applied workplace skills;
- r) Demonstrate the ability to establish effective working relationships with others, defining, sharing and delegating responsibility within a group;
- s) Use a range of technological equipment and systems;
- t) Use information technology effectively;
- u) Engage in career and personal development so as to deepen their knowledge and develop further skills by using opportunities for lifelong learning.

***Graduands that fulfil the Regulatory Framework requirements for veterinary nurse training will be eligible to apply to the RCVS for their Licence to Practice through Registration (Veterinary Nursing pathway only):***

- v) Demonstrate compliance with the Code of Conduct for the RCVS Registered Veterinary Nurse;
- w) Apply to join the Register of Veterinary Nurses as held by the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons

## 13. Programme structure and requirements

### 13.1. Length of Study Programme

#### **FdSc Veterinary Nursing**

The full-time Foundation Degree Veterinary Nursing is completed over three years. The programme provides students with the opportunity to combine academic study with the acquisition of professional knowledge and skills in an approved veterinary placement practice and is accredited by the RCVS as a licence to practice qualification that equips graduands to apply to join the Register of Veterinary Nurses.

For veterinary nursing students in addition to the modules studied in College, to meet the RCVS registration criteria students must also complete a minimum of 1,800 hours within their practice placement. Students will normally complete at least 37 hours per week during a year placement of 52 weeks. Individual students will negotiate target completion of training hours with their Course Manager, considerate of training practice need.

In addition to the requirement for a minimum of 1,800 hours on placement, students will be required to successfully complete the RCVS Nursing Progress Log (NPL) and to demonstrate competency against the National Occupational Standards (2010). For measuring practical skills and competencies against the NOS, practical examinations are used in the form of a Final Summative Clinical Assessment of day one competencies. To ensure theoretical competencies are met, individual modules on the degree programme are

mapped against the NOS (see Appendix 1). Students must therefore pass each individually mapped element in order to achieve their full award.

Veterinary nursing students who do not complete all requirements of this award will not achieve the Foundation Degree in Veterinary Nursing and will therefore be unable to register as an accredited veterinary nurse with the RCVS.

### **FdSc Veterinary Health Studies**

The full-time Foundation Degree Veterinary Health Studies is completed over two years. Students will study 240 academic credits in two years study on the course.

Both programmes are based on the study of 15 credit modules to achieve 120 credits at level 4 and 120 credits at level 5; a total of 240 credits over the length of the programme. If completed the practice placement will be initiated during Year 2 of the programme

The credit system is used to ensure a balanced workload across each programme, with each credit point representing a notional learning time of 10 hours of student work. Thus a 15-credit module will require a notional input of 150 hours of work, and a complete academic year of 90 credits will require 900 hours of work, or approximately 30 hours per week on academic modules across the 25 teaching weeks of the academic year.

A student may choose to transfer to the non-accredited award of FdSc Veterinary Health Studies or to accept the interim award of Certificate in Education to demonstrate achievement at Level 4. Students must complete all aspects of the academic elements and achieve a credit tariff of 240 points to successful graduate with a FdSc Veterinary Health Studies.

Students who apply and wish to complete a non-accredited route choose to study for FdSc Veterinary Health Studies. Other students entering the programme may not, and for a variety of reasons including personal circumstances, academic failure and 'fitness to practise' issues, be able to complete all RCVS requirements for the accredited degree programme to achieve the full award of Foundation Degree Veterinary Nursing and may after support and guidance choose to transfer onto FdSc Veterinary Health Studies. **The centre will seek to ensure that all students who are enrolled on the accredited programme are placed within a practice placement.**

### **13.2. Detailed Modular Structure**

The curriculum for the full-time route FdSc Veterinary Nursing and FdSc Veterinary Health Studies will consist of the following 15 credit modules, studied over the appropriate period. The duration of study will depend on the programme. Students following the accredited route (FdSc Veterinary Nursing) will be required to complete an additional year, which is industry based. During this year the completion of the pre-registration hours and the

associated electronic nursing portfolio will be completed. Successful completion of all these components along with the academic credits which provide the criteria for eligibility to join the professional register. Students following the FdSc Veterinary Health Studies programme can elect to transfer to join the FdSc Veterinary Nursing programme during their second year of study.

The level of study is shown in brackets.

The Module Reference Sheets are available on the College website.



**Modular Delivery – FdSc Veterinary Nursing (all modules 15 credits)**

<b>Year 1 120 credits at Level 4</b>	<b>Year 2</b>	<b>Year 3 120 credits at Level 5</b>
<b>CORE</b>	<b>CORE</b>	<b>CORE</b>
Animal Anatomy and Physiology (Level 4)	Sandwich Year (Block work-based placement) [this will be responsibility of the Centre (Askham Bryan College) to find a work placement]	Advanced Veterinary Nursing (Level 5)
Introduction to Evidence Based Nursing and Research Concepts (Level 4)		Professional Practice and Reflective Nursing (Level 5)
Nutrition and Breeding of Domestic Animals (Level 4)		Work Related Project – Improving Veterinary Nursing Practice or Client Care (Level 5)
Process and Practice of a Veterinary Business (Level 4)		Anaesthesia for Veterinary Nurses (Level 5)
(Level 4) Supporting Sick Animals		Veterinary Pharmacy and Medicines (Level 5)
Surgical Nursing and Theatre Practice (Level 4)		Business and Practice Management (Level 5)
Diagnostics for Veterinary Practice (Level 4)		Medical Nursing (Level 5)
<b>OPTIONS (Students choose one)</b>		<b>OPTIONS (Students choose one)</b>
Introduction to Equine and Livestock Management (Level 4)		Animal Behavioural and Therapies (Level 5)
Introduction to Companion Animal Behaviour (Level 4)		Veterinary Care and Management for Livestock (Level 5)

The Professional Statutory Regulatory Body (RCVS) requirements indicate that the Licence to Practice Regulatory Framework requires individual students to complete the following:

- Work based placement learning: Students to complete their professional regulatory hours during their second year of study. This is completed within an approved training practice as secured by the college.
- Demonstration of Occupational Competencies: completion of the RCVS Nursing Progress Log, against agreed milestones throughout the programme of study to ensure incremental development and demonstration of the necessary skills.
- Final Summative Clinical Examinations of day-one practical competences will be completed during year 3.

**Modular Delivery – FdSc Veterinary Health Studies (all modules 15 credits)**

<b>Year 1 120 credits at Level 4</b>	<b>Year 2 120 credits at Level 5</b>	<b>Year 3 (option to 'top up').</b>
<b>CORE</b>	<b>CORE</b>	
Animal Anatomy and Physiology (Level 4)	Advanced Veterinary Nursing (Level 5)	Block Year (52 weeks) (see notes below)
Introduction to Evidence Based Nursing and Research Concepts (Level 4)	Professional Practice and Reflective Nursing (Level 5)	
Nutrition and Breeding of Domestic Animals (Level 4)	Work Related Project – Improving Veterinary Nursing Practice or Client Care (Level 5)	
Process and Practice of a Veterinary Business (Level 4)	Anaesthesia for Veterinary Nurses (Level 5)	
(Level 4) Supporting Sick Animals	Veterinary Pharmacy and Medicines (Level 5)	
Surgical Nursing and Theatre Practice (Level 4)	Business and Practice Management (Level 5)	
Diagnostics for Veterinary Practice (Level 4)	Medical Nursing (Level 5)	
<b>OPTIONS (Students choose one)</b>	<b>OPTIONS (Students choose one)</b>	
Introduction to Equine and Livestock Management (Level 4)	Animal Behavioural and Therapies (Level 5)	
Introduction to Companion Animal Behaviour (Level 4)	Veterinary Care and Management for Livestock (Level 5)	

- Students can elect to transfer to the FdSc Veterinary Nursing programme if they successfully secure a work-based placement opportunity, under the direction of the college, within a veterinary practice setting for their third year.
- Students will still be required to complete all of their academic aspects components to fulfil the pre-registration requirements. This includes the associated clinical work-based placement hours ( ) 1,800 and the Nursing progress Log (NPL).

- Students must complete all aspects components of the course and achieve a minimum of 40% in each individual assessment components to be eligible for entry onto the veterinary nursing register.

### **13.3. Professional Statutory and Regulatory Body (PSRB) – Royal College Veterinary Surgeons (RCVS)**

#### **FdSc Veterinary Nursing**

This course is mapped to the subject sector council for environmental and land-based industries National Occupational Standards (NOS) for Veterinary Nursing and Auxiliary Services (July 2010). Foundation Degree Veterinary Nursing students will be able to register as a qualified nurse on successful completion of the regulatory framework indicators. Students are required to undertake and successfully complete all the core modules within the programme, including the work-based placement learning components. Each academic module and each element of assessment is mapped to the NOS (see Appendix 2), requiring each element of assessment to be successfully completed for the full award to be achieved (see 19.2 for assessment regulations applying to this programme).

Additionally, students must meet the PSRB requirements by completion of the Nursing Progress Log (NPL) and successful completion of a minimum of 1,800 hours in an approved placement practice. Practical skills and competencies will be assessed against the day one competencies required in the National Occupational Standards by use of practical examinations and be awarded a pass or fail outcome which will appear on the records from the Examination Board.

Students who do not meet the FdSc Veterinary Nursing regulatory framework requirements identified and included within the programme design and accredited by the RCVS (as the Regulatory Body for Veterinary Nursing), but who do achieve 240 credits of successful academic study, will be awarded FdSc Veterinary Health Studies.

### **13.4. Variation for students not meeting RCVS accreditation requirements for FdSc Veterinary Nursing**

#### **FdSc Veterinary Health Studies (non-RCVS accredited)**

Students who wish to complete a non-accredited route will choose to study for FdSc Veterinary Health Studies. Other students entering the programme may not, for a variety of reasons including personal circumstances, academic failure and 'fitness to practise' issues be able to complete all RCVS requirements for the accredited degree programme to achieve the full award of Foundation Degree Veterinary Nursing and may choose to transfer onto FdSc Veterinary Health Studies. **The centre will seek to ensure that all students who are enrolled on the accredited programme are placed within a practice placement.**

Students studying FdSc Veterinary Health Studies will complete all the academic modules following the same delivery pattern as those on the full award and must successfully complete 240 credits, to include 120 credits at Level 4 and 120 credits at Level 5, and a minimum of 400 placement hours over the two years of study (with a requirement to complete the first 150 hours by the end of the first term in year 2). Placements may normally relate to the veterinary or allied animal industries.

## Academic Level of the Programme

The aims and outcomes for this programme have been developed to align to the Framework for Higher Education Qualifications (QAA, 2008) at level 5 and to meet the benchmark statement for Foundation Degree awards (QAA, 2010).

QAA Level	Credits	Higher Education Award
Level 4	120	Certificate in Higher Education
Level 5	240*	Foundation Degree (VN or VHS)

The award has been designed to develop key knowledge, understanding and skills to facilitate progression to further study at Level 6 or employment within the sector as identified in the subject benchmark statements for Veterinary Nursing (2015), Agriculture (2009) and Bioscience (2007). Elements for the statement for General Business and Management (2007) are also reflected, specifically in relation to management and development of people, business policy and strategy, communication and customer service.

### **FdSc Veterinary Nursing**

This programme has also been mapped to the National Occupational Standards 2010 for Veterinary Nursing (see Appendix 2) and the RCVS Nursing Process Log (NPL). This evidence can also be located within the relevant module reference sheets.

The course is designed so that those successfully completing this Foundation Degree can undertake a period of further study, normally of one years' duration, to achieve a BSc (Honours) Degree. A BSc (Hons) programme is undergoing validation with Royal Agricultural University for delivery at Askham Bryan College from 2016/17 academic year.

### **13.5. Interim award of Certificate of Higher Education**

On successful completion of 120 Credits at Level 4, students leaving the programme will be awarded a Certificate of Higher Education on condition that a minimum of 200 placement hours have been completed at a satisfactory level.

## 13.7. Distinctive Features of the Course

### FdSc Veterinary Nursing

Successful completion of all modules and the extended period of work placement plus the Nursing progress Log (NPL) will lead to the award of a FdSc in Veterinary Nursing. The purpose of the programme is to provide a balance of vocational and academic studies that equip students with the skills and knowledge to enter a career within veterinary nursing and animal management or to progress to further study.

Distinctive features of the programme include:

- The course has been designed after consultation with the veterinary industry and the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons (RCVS) thus identifying current needs in Veterinary Nursing and associated professions;
- Work-based placement learning is integral throughout the entire programme, optimising opportunities for applied learning which consolidates academic study and develops vocational skills, central to the design of Foundation Degree programmes;
- The programme encompasses the LANTRA National Occupational Standards for Veterinary Nursing and Auxiliary Services and, on successful completion of the Regulatory requirements of the programme the student is able to register on the professional Register of Veterinary Nurses as a qualified veterinary nurse;
- The significant period of clinical nursing practice, designed to assist in developing and demonstrating Veterinary Nursing clinical skills will consist of a maximum of a 52 week period, for students working in an unpaid capacity.
- The reflective requirements of study and assessment completed by the student in both study and placement will develop the learner's ability to evaluate their own academic, vocational and professional performance including feedback from their employer or nominated representative;
- Students on placement will be supported by both a Clinical Coach within the practice and a Clinical Tutor provided by the College;
- The inclusion of a non-accredited route (FdSc Veterinary Health Studies) and interim award (Cert HE) for students wishing to transfer from the full accredited award omitting the completion of the period in work-based placement.
- The opportunity for some specialisation by choice of optional modules to suit students' career ambitions or interest and to develop a broader experience of the profession and its allied industries. As part of this specialism, students will be able to negotiate up to 100 work based placement learning hours of the 1,800 required for professional accreditation. Examples of placements that will be considered for approval and acceptable, suitable and meaningful are included in the optional modules.

- The specialist resources available to support the programme at Askham Bryan College sites, including specialist veterinary units, animal management resources, equine and agricultural educational resources including 2 equine centres and production livestock following a range of farming practices. The College hosts the National Beef Centre and the National Centre for the Uplands.

### **FdSc Veterinary Health Studies**

Successful completion of all modules will lead to the award of a FdSc Veterinary Health Studies. The purpose of the programme is to provide a balance of vocational and academic studies that equip students with the skills and knowledge to enter a career within the allied veterinary industry and the associated para-professional roles within it.

Distinctive features of the programme include:

- The course has been designed to be considerate of the wider skills that may underpin the non-nursing roles that are commonly encountered and support the veterinary clinical team. These roles provide a supportive function to the veterinary practice based team, and require similar knowledge of the physiological and practical skills akin to the veterinary nursing role;
- Work-based placement learning is found within the programme and is centred around experience associated with the student chosen career progression route. This optimises opportunities for applied learning which consolidates academic study and develops vocational skills, central to the design of Foundation Degree programmes;
- The reflective requirements of study and assessment completed by the student in both study and placement will develop the learner's ability to evaluate their own academic, vocational and professional performance including feedback from their employer or a nominated representative;
- The inclusion of an interim award (Cert HE) for students withdraw after successful completion of 120 credits;
- The opportunity for some specialisation by choice of optional modules to suit students' career ambitions or interest and to develop a broader experience of the profession and its allied industries.
- The specialist resources available to support the programme at Askham Bryan College sites, including specialist veterinary units, animal management resources, equine and agricultural educational resources including 2 equine centres and production livestock following a range of farming practices. The College hosts the National Beef Centre and the National Centre for the Uplands.

## **14. Student Support Services**

Details of the range of support services provided for students are given in the Course Handbook and the following support services will be provided for students for all students will include:

- The Course Handbook that provides details of all facilities available to students;
- A formal induction programme when you first arrive at College that will introduce you to all aspects of student life, including support services available, and outline the study skills you will need to complete your programme successfully;
- The programme specification and individual module guides that provide clear details of the assessment regulations and outline the teaching and assessment programme for each module of study;
- Opportunity to attend professional seminars, conferences, visits to a range of veterinary service providers;
- Regular one to one tutorials with your Course Manager to enable appropriate individual support for you and to set and review your personal targets and goals;
- On-line module teaching resources will be available both on and off campus through the College's VLE, Moodle;
- Access to library resources such as books and journals, many of which are available on-line;
- Student e-mail and internet facilities;
- Personal access to pastoral support to enable you to discuss problems relating to specific modules or assessment activities with nominated tutors, placement officers and wider College staff;
- Student representation on all course committees where academic issues are discussed;
- Student representation on the College's Student Council, where matters relating to pastoral issues and accommodation are discussed;
- Membership of the Student Union;
- Access to additional learning support services, such as dyslexia or disability support services via the Learning Support team;
- Access to a counselling service.

Aligned to their course requirements students studying the FdSc Veterinary Nursing will also have access to;

- Registration with the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons as a Student Veterinary Nurse, supporting the requirements to practice as a student under Schedule 3 amendment (2002) of the Veterinary Surgeons Act (1966); access to the Veterinary Nursing Professional Code of Conduct and associated registration rules;
- Opportunity to join the British Veterinary Nursing Association (optional);
- Nominated Clinical Tutor and Visiting Officer; direct access through a dedicated mobile telephone number for placement support;



- Quality monitoring of progress towards Nursing Progress Log completion against agreed targets;
- Support and access opportunities and interviews, as provided by the college, at training practice placements, with application and interview skills and techniques;
- Training and standardisation of nominated Clinical Coaches from the training practice.

## 15. Criteria for admissions

Students who demonstrable science-based achievements and an aptitude for care and nursing are considered the most suitable candidates for both the FdSc Veterinary Nursing and FdSc Veterinary Health Studies programmes.

In order to be eligible to enrol with the RCVS, it is a requirement that applicants will have achieved a level 2 pass or grade C or above in five subjects including English, Mathematics, and Science at GCSE level, or equivalent qualifications.

As a minimum, applicants should confirm their ability to study on this Foundation Degree by presenting evidence of **140** UCAS tariff points as a result of:

- at least two subjects studied to A2 level to include preferably a Science related subject (e.g. Biology), or
- BTEC Diploma (MM) or Extended Diploma (MPP), or
- NPTC single grade Extended Diploma (M) or
- Advanced Diploma

(This criteria will change with the introduction of the revised national UCAS tariff system with effect from September 2017).

All applicants must normally have gained a minimum of 4 weeks suitable work experience prior to application (with favourable references).

This is a popular course with places limited by the availability of suitable and accessible placements to support the significant work based placement learning resources requirements. Suitable applicants will be interviewed so that their interest and motivation to study at degree level can be assessed. Interviews will include a numeracy assessment, a practical dexterity assessment where deemed required, and an assessment of the individual's communication skills. **The sourcing and securing of practical placements is the responsibility of the centre for those students studying on accredited routes.**

As veterinary practices may be located in rural areas, some of which may not be easily accessed by public transport, students are encouraged to consider the importance of managing their own transport arrangements to fulfil the

needs and expectations of the flexible and often unexpected needs of veterinary practices.

For candidates wishing to study FdSc Veterinary Nursing this work experience must be completed within a veterinary practice. References from this work experience undertaken and consideration for the course appropriateness will be made.

Mature students will be considered, but must demonstrate achievement of literacy and numeracy as above and also

- After successful completion of an Access to Higher Education programme with a Science base, or
- Learning through experience, demonstrated in portfolios or records of achievement, and/or by set learning tasks set at interview, and confirmed by employer reference(s). or
- A combination of academic and experiential learning, to be considered on its individual merits.

Overseas Students:

- Applicants whose first language is not English must offer evidence of qualifications in written and spoken English. Acceptable qualifications are IELTS 7.0, or direct equivalents.

The College's decision to offer a place is based solely on a competitive selection process leading to indications of any given applicant's suitability for the course and will not discriminate on the grounds of disability or the level of support needed provided that the disability does not compromise the applicant's 'Fitness to Practice' as a registered veterinary nurse - and meeting the professional code of conduct which is available at <http://www.rcvs.org.uk/advice-and-guidance/code-of-professional-conduct-for-veterinary-nurses/> The RCVS Code of Professional Conduct sets out veterinary nurses' professional responsibilities. Supporting guidance provides further advice on the proper standards of professional practice.

## **16. Teaching, learning and assessment**

### **16.1. Inclusive teaching, learning and assessment**

This programme is inclusive of disabled people with particular regard to teaching, learning and assessment, in accordance with the [Equality Act 2010](#). Due to the particular requirements of this programme, students who are hearing impaired, vision impaired, speech impaired and mobility impaired are advised to contact the Askham Bryan College Learning Support Manager to explore whether appropriate support or alternative assessment can be provided, through an application for DSA and an Assessment of Needs, to enable successful completion of the programme. Any circumstance that compromises a student's Fitness to Practise (see RCVS Code of Professional Conduct) will be subject to College procedures and be referred to the RCVS Professional Practice Body.

## **16.2. Formal timetabled sessions and directed study**

Students will participate in formal timetabled activities; such as lectures, seminars, tutorials, practical's and visits; for approximately one third of the study time recommended for each module – usually around 2 hours per week for a 15-credit module studied over 25 weeks of the year. Thus the majority of module activities; such as reading around the subject, preparing for tutorials and seminars, preparing for, and completing, module assessments and revision for, and sitting, examinations; will take place outside of these scheduled activities, but are an essential part of a student's learning journey.

Students attempting to short-cut their learning activities may find themselves experiencing difficulties as each module progresses, and as the level of assumed understanding increases. Thus it is vitally important that new students establish an effective routine for their studies as soon as possible. Maintaining a balanced workload from the start of the programme will help to avoid intense periods of activity, and ensure knowledge and understanding gradually develop throughout the year in readiness for any end-of-module examinations.

## **16.3. Teaching strategies employed on the programme**

Teaching and learning methods used to deliver this curriculum are designed to provide experience, and, through reflection upon it, develop concepts which can then be explored through investigation. The methods used in practice vary according to the nature of the subject matter but include a wide diversity from formal lectures to student centred activities including assignments, seminars, case studies and learning through specially designed learning materials, remotely. The curriculum is delivered in such a way that there is a reducing reliance on tutor directed study as students' progress through their programme.

The forms of teaching and learning activities that will be employed for the delivery of this Foundation Degree are detailed below:

### ***Lectures***

One of the methods of delivery of learning during the College-based phases of the programme will be by lectures. Lecturers aim to:

- provide information;
- encourage students to pursue additional information on subjects covered;
- provide various views on subjects;
- explain difficult ideas and issues relating to particular areas;
- demonstrate ways in which students can widen and increase their depth of knowledge.

### ***Seminars / Tutorials***

These will provide opportunities for dialogues between students themselves as well as lecturers. Exchanges of information and ideas can be achieved under the direction of tutors in seminars/tutorials. Through these meetings students should be able to:

- express and share their views;
- develop their ability to participate in group activities.

### ***Practicals***

Resources at the College will be used to simulate work-related situations and to develop relevant practical and scientific skills. The Veterinary Nursing facilities contain diagnostic, anaesthetic, laboratory, medical and surgical equipment and practical demonstration areas. The practical demonstration areas include mock veterinary practice facilities set up to showing examples of preparation, surgical theatre layout, and supporting resources. The Veterinary Nursing facilities have been designed specifically so that students are able to learn and experience a simulated environment that reflects the conditions of a functioning veterinary practice. The facilities have also been developed to ensure students experience working in a purpose built veterinary practice with room layout reflecting 'best practice'.

The College has well-resourced science laboratories to support scientific and clinical skills development. The Animal Unit includes areas specialising in small mammals, aquatics, birds and exotics. Veterinary Nursing students will also make use of the Equine and Farm resources, providing a wide range of livestock including cows, sheep and horses.

Within the College resources, research activity is a normal part of the day to day work, with behavioural, feed trials (game birds), production livestock (National Beef Centre), environmental conservation and a Rural Business Research Unit operating part of the National Farm Business Survey and new innovations in the National Centre for the Uplands being explored.

### ***Work-based Experience***

#### **FdSc Veterinary Nursing**

All students apply theory to practice in their block year placement. During the 1,800 hours of work experience built in to the programme, students will consolidate academic knowledge whilst developing practical skills required in the industry. This placement is inextricably linked to the achievement of the RCVS qualification, which is a requirement for students to achieve the FdSc Veterinary Nursing. Their studies culminate in the development of a reflective project, which where possible is agreed with both College staff and employers. This encourages the development of transferable skills essential for working life.

#### **FdSc Veterinary Health Studies**

All students are expected to complete 400 hours work experience associated with an allied wider veterinary establishment. This placement should be associated with the student chosen career path within the wider para-professional service extending from clinical practice. Indeed akin to veterinary nursing students, veterinary health studies students reflect on their studies in the development of a reflective project, which where possible is agreed with

both College staff and employers. This encourages the development of transferable skills essential for working life.

### ***Educational Visits***

Visits to veterinary practices, specialist university departments, diagnostic laboratories and related industry will be an important part of the programme. These visits will aid the reinforcement and application of information learned through more formal study for all students. A wide range of services will reflect the diverse range of roles these graduates will enter the job market to complete.

### ***Web-based learning materials***

All learners will be supported throughout the programme through online web-based support such as the Virtual Learning Environment (VLE), Moodle, and online Journals and e materials. A bank of multiple choice questions will provide valuable support for individuals outside scheduled class time to self-assess their learning and receive formative feedback.

## **16.4. Assessment**

Assessment is considered an important part of the learning process. In formulating the forms of assessment for this award, care was taken to ensure that module assessments test the skills and knowledge needed in the working environment. Assessment methods are diverse and include essays, reflective reports and assignments, case studies, literary reviews, work-based projects requiring oral and written reports, individual exercises and work-based assignments. The main focus of all assessments will be the students' own work setting but students will be encouraged to share knowledge and information of their different job roles in a formal and informal way, such as visits, so that a breadth of knowledge of the sector is developed and can be evidenced within assessments.

Time constrained assessment may include closed and open book assessment, with both seen and unseen questions and tasks set.

## **FdSc Veterinary Nursing**

In addition to assessment strategies used to assess academic modules veterinary nursing students will complete their Nursing Progress Log (NPL) and undertake practical examinations (see 19.2). Formative assessment contributes to the student's appreciation of their progress on a regular basis.

## **17. Work-based placement learning**

### **17.1. Placement in a Training Practice**

#### **FdSc Veterinary Nursing**

Veterinary Nursing students are required to have a placement within a Training Practice (TP) or Auxiliary Training Practice (aTP) (with secondment as necessary and identified through the approval process) as registered with the RCVS throughout

study to fulfil the regulatory minimum requirements. For those on accredited programmes, support and direction is in place to help students secure a suitable training practice, and support for the student in development of application and interview skills, **the responsibility for securing a placement in industry lies with the centre**. Placements are secured through application, interview and selection process normally managed by the employer. All students will be provided with opportunities available to apply for and support in the process through the extensive training practice database. Support, negotiation and encouragement will take place with affiliated employers to ensure all students access experiential work-based placement learning opportunities in a fair and transparent manner. Employers have the option to enter a mutually beneficial arrangement that offers placements to students of the College.

Students are provided details of the work based placement opportunities and requirements and selection process.

### **17.2. Role of the Clinical Coach**

Within the TP or aTP, the student will be appointed with a Clinical Coach (a Registered Veterinary Nurse or Veterinary Surgeon who has completed Clinical Coach training), who plans, trains, supervises, observes and makes decisions on students' practical competence whilst in practice, against the Nursing Progress Log skills list. A Placement Officer from Askham Bryan College will routinely visit the practice to ensure that the required standards are maintained and sufficient to support the student. A risk management approach informs the frequency of visits.

### **17.3. Role of the Visiting Officer**

A veterinary nursing lecturer from Askham Bryan College will fulfil a number of key functions in supporting the students' educational experience in practice. They will:

- Provide support and advice to Clinical Coaches in carrying out their role;
- Ensure Clinical Coaches are familiar with the programme, providing updates as necessary;
- Ensure Clinical Coaches understand their role in supervision of the students at the different stages of the programme;
- Provide an initial point of contact within the programme, dealing with specific questions or difficulties relating to the programme;
- Visit the student considerate of the risk based approach to the individual's success;
- Provide quality assurance, monitoring and audit of the NPL progress;
- Monitor authenticated completion of placement hours.

### **17.4. Attendance at placement**

Work-based placement periods are planned within the programme structure during

the second year of study. Students will undertake no more than a 52 week period within the clinical placement. Students must complete 1,800 hours within clinical placement to complete the RCVS registration criteria.

Students must have an indicative plan, agreed with their Course Manager, to complete the placement requirement and to ensure that applied learning is managed appropriately. While on placement, students must also complete a practically assessed clinical tool which demonstrates competence against the National Occupational Standards 2010. Students who do not complete the requirements will not achieve the degree in veterinary nursing and will therefore be unable to register as a veterinary nurse.

## **FdSc Veterinary Health Studies**

### **17.5 Placement in Industry**

Veterinary Health Studies students are required to have a placement within a veterinary setting. These settings form part of the wider support services aligned to the veterinary industry. Commonly found paraprofessional careers that may be considered by veterinary health studies students include:

- Veterinary physiotherapists
- Laboratory personnel
- Nutritional and commercial companies
- Research and development settings
- Educational establishments.

Akin to the veterinary nursing students support is in place to secure students suitable work placements and support for the student in development of application and interview skills, the responsibility for securing a placement lies with the student.

Placements will be secured through application, interview and selection process normally managed by the employer. All students will be provided with opportunities to apply for and support in the process. Support, negotiation and encouragement will take place with affiliated employers to ensure all students access experiential work-based placement learning opportunities. Employers have the option to enter a mutually beneficial arrangement that offers placements to students of the College.

### **17.5 Role of Supervisors**

Within the work-based placement a supervisor, mentor or associated nominee will be appointed. This person is responsible for the supervision and

training needs of that student. A Placement Officer from Askham Bryan College will routinely visit all placements to ensure that the required standards are maintained and sufficient to support the student. A risk management approach informs the frequency of visits. A minimum of twice per year visitation will be planned.

### **17.5. Role of the Placement Officer**

A veterinary nursing lecturer from Askham Bryan College will fulfil a number of key functions in supporting the students' educational experience in practice. They will:

- Provide support and advice to supervisors and mentors carrying out their role;
- Ensure all supervisors are familiar with the programme, providing updates as necessary;
- Provide an initial point of contact within the programme, dealing with specific questions or difficulties relating to the programme;
- Visit the student considerate of the risk based approach to the individual's success;
- Monitor authenticated completion of placement hours.

### **17.6. Attendance at placement**

Work-based placement periods are planned within the programme structure. Students will have opportunity during their study period to engage in the completion of their placement hours. Students attend college for four days per week, providing them with opportunity to complete associated work-based placement hours during each working week and in addition to this, holiday period.

Students must have an indicative plan, agreed with their Course Manager, to complete the placement requirement and to ensure that applied learning is managed appropriately.

## **18. Quality assurance procedures**

### **18.1. RAU Procedures for Quality Assurance**

These are described in the University's Teaching Quality Handbook and include procedures for:

- Programme and module development, monitoring and review
- Student assessment, progression and awards
- Assessment moderation and external examining

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## **18.2. Course Management Committee and Student Representation**

A Course Management Committee (CMC) will be implemented with the following membership:

- Course Manager who will be Chair
- Section Leader Veterinary Nursing
- Lecturers
- Director of Higher Education
- Two student representatives from each programme year-group.

The two student representatives from each programme will be elected at the beginning of each academic year and will serve for a minimum period of one year. Their prime function will be to bring a student's perspective to the deliberations of the CMC and feedback on the progress of the programme.

The CMC will normally meet at least twice a year and its function will include discussion of general issues relating to teaching, learning resources, curriculum and careers guidance. Minutes from this committee will be reviewed by the College's Higher Education Management Committee.

The Link Tutor from the RAU will be advised of the arrangements for meetings and invited to attend as a co-opted member, in person or via video or audio conferencing if available.

## **18.3. Stakeholder Feedback**

Because of the emphasis on work-based learning and the acquisition of practical skills for both the FdSc Veterinary Nursing programme and the FdSc Veterinary Health Studies programme, a Programme Review Forum will be established. This will include representatives from training practices and the wider veterinary community. These meetings will take place a minimum of twice per year. This forum will comprise of Askham Bryan College staff members involved with the delivery of the programme. The Forum will review the progress of the programme and its associated assessment procedures and also make recommendations about the future development of the programme. This will form part of the standard agenda for the Clinical Coach Meetings and student focus group meetings.

## **18.4. Quality assurance on placement**

### **FdSc Veterinary Nursing**

Students on placement are supervised by a Clinical Coach. The Clinical Coach must attend a minimum of two standardisation days a year at the College. In addition, the Placement Officer will visit the practice at least twice annually and will quality assure all aspects of planning, mentoring and record keeping. As part of this visit, the Placement Officer will ensure that the student has support in completing the work-based practical clinical assessment tool which is a mandatory RCVS requirement in order for the student to gain the title of Veterinary Nurse on completion of the course. Upon successful completion of the work-based clinical assessment tool, and successful completion of all assessment components of the course, students will be able to sit the Final Summative Clinical Assessment of day-one competencies and enter the Register of Veterinary Nurses.

### **FdSc Veterinary Health Studies**

Student on placement will be visited by the college placement officers. These staff will check on the progress the student is making through the completion of their work-based placement hours. Student will be expected to complete a reflective account of their experience in industry. This form the basis of their reflective account aligned to one of their level 5 modules completed during their second year of study. Staff visiting a veterinary health studies student will check the progress of this reflective account and quality assurance the reflective writing contained within it. A forum for this account will be available via the colleges VLE system.

Resources at the College will be used to simulate work-related situations and to develop relevant practical and scientific skills. The Veterinary Facilities contain diagnostic, anaesthetic, laboratory, medical and surgical equipment and practical demonstration areas. The practical demonstration areas include mock veterinary practice facilities set up to show examples of preparation, surgical theatre layout and supporting resources. The Veterinary Facilities have been designed specifically so that students are able to learn and experience a simulated environment that reflects the conditions of a functioning veterinary practice. The facilities have also been developed to ensure students experience working in a purpose built veterinary practice with room layout reflecting 'best practice'. Students will have an opportunity to develop the clinical skills aligned to the veterinary nursing and wider paraprofessional roles.

## 19. Marking guides and assessment regulations

### 19.1. Marking guides and assessment regulations related to Foundation Degree study

The marking criteria for student written assignment work is located as part of the Askham Bryan College Higher Education Policy (SCA21). The appropriate grading criteria will be included in the module handbook alongside the assessment task.

The marking criteria for examinations and current academic regulations for assessment and progression are located on the RAU website <https://www.rau.ac.uk/about/organisation/public-information/academic-information/academic-policies-and-procedures>. Assessment regulations pertaining to the relevant academic year will be appended to the Course Handbook.

### 19.2. Assessment regulations pertaining to PSRB requirements for this programme *for Veterinary Nursing students only*.

For this programme, the Academic Regulations and Procedures are subject to the rules and regulations of the Professional Statutory and Regulatory Body (PSRB); in this case the RCVS. In order to meet the PSRB requirements, regulation 2.3.2 of the RAU Academic Regulations will not apply to students on this programme i.e. students are not eligible for a compensated pass for a module or for assessment components within a module.

In line with RAU regulation 2.2.2, students who achieve a grade of 40% or higher for a module, when all weighted elements of assessment are combined will be deemed to have passed the degree module overall and may progress on the programme. Progression entitlement follows the RAU regulations set out in 2.3, with opportunities for referral and trailing of modules as for other programmes. Students failing a module overall and being approved for referral (as set out in regulation 2.4.1), will be subject to reassessment in all elements of assessment to meet PSRB requirements.

If one element of modular assessment has not achieved a grade of 40% or higher, however, the PSRB requirement will not have been met for that module. This will be identified as an Accreditation Failure (AF grade) by the relevant examination board and will be subject to referral by reassessment of the failed element of assessment, i.e. a failure of the written examination element of a module, despite the module being passed overall with a grade higher than 40%, will result in the student resitting the examination element to achieve a capped grade of 40%. Students are entitled to a maximum of four attempts at passing assessment elements subject to Accreditation Failure, the first referral, and reassessment, a trailed referral and a referral of the trailed attempt. In each instance, the original grade for the module will stand where the overall module was passed at first attempt and the Accreditation Failure element will be capped at 40% and shown as such on the final degree transcript.

Some modules contain specific assessments to demonstrate the Regulatory requirements associated with the professional outcome associated with this award. The grade associated with these components would normally be pass or fail. This includes an interim achievement of placement hours, full completion of both placement hours and the Nursing Progress Log in Year 3 alongside the Final Summative Clinical Practical Examination (normally 12 x 6 minute stations and achieving a pass in a minimum of 8 of these). Students may undertake reassessment should a fail graded be awarded. Further to this the process of reassessment is consistent with the guidelines associated with accreditation failure shown above.

These additional PSRB requirements will be presented to the relevant course award board, including an authenticated record produced Clinical Coach in Approved Training Practice and results of the Summative Clinical Practical Examination.

Students who do not meet the FdSc Veterinary Nursing course requirements after referral entitlement is exhausted will be awarded an FdSc in Veterinary Health Studies.

## **20. Ownership of programme specification**

The responsibility for the internal management of this Foundation Degree will lie within the Askham Bryan College Veterinary Nursing Section.

## **21. Curriculum map**

The curriculum map for this programme demonstrating where the programme outcomes are assessed within the modular programme is shown in Appendix 1.

## **22. Career prospects**

It is anticipated that the majority of students graduating from this programme will choose to enter the veterinary nursing profession directly, or may choose to progress to further study, either BSc (Hons) Veterinary Nursing and Veterinary Health Studies, or Advanced Diploma in Veterinary Nursing.

Suitable career routes may include (but not be limited to):

- Veterinary Nurse in general veterinary practice.
- Head Nurse in general veterinary practice
- Senior Surgical/Medical Nurse in specialist referral veterinary practice.
- Lecturer/Senior Nurse in University Veterinary Schools.
- Technical Advisor or Sales in Pharmaceutical Companies.

- Lecturer in Educational Establishments.
- Behaviour Training or Counselling.
- Allied animal professions including training, welfare, rescue, animal collections, rehabilitations etc
- Consultancy in Animal Health Companies.
- Managerial positions in Welfare Organisations
- Research
- Practice Management

### 23. Further information

This Programme Specification document is designed to be a concise summary of the main features of the Foundation Degree Veterinary Nursing and Veterinary Health Studies programmes. More detailed information about the programme modules is available in the individual module handbooks and web-sites available from the College's VLE (Moodle).

The Course Handbook includes details of the College's Equal Opportunities and Disabilities statements and the details of the learning resources available to students.

### 24. Module reference sheets

The module reference sheets for both the FdSc Veterinary Nursing and FdSc Veterinary Health Studies programmes, show where the programme outcomes are assessed within the modular programme are available as a separate catalogue and available on the College's VLE (Moodle).

Module titles and levels are as below (all modules are 15 credits):

<b>Level 4</b>	Core/ Option
Animal Anatomy and Physiology	Core
Diagnostics for Veterinary Practice	Core
Introduction to Evidence Based Nursing and Research Concepts	Core
Nutrition and Breeding of Domestic Animals	Core
Process and Practice of a Veterinary Business	Core
Surgical Nursing and Theatre Practice	Core
Supporting Sick Animals	Core
Introduction to Equine and Livestock Management	Option
Introduction to Companion Animal Behaviour	Option

## **Level 5**

Advanced Veterinary Nursing	Core
Anaesthesia for Veterinary Nurses	Core
Pharmacy and Medicines	Core
Business and Practice Management	Core
Medical Nursing	Core
Professional Practice and Reflective Nursing	Core
Work Related Project – Improving Veterinary Nursing Practice	Core
Animal Behavioural and Therapies	Option
Veterinary Care and Management for Livestock	Option

**Appendix 1 – Mapping of Modules to LANTRA National Occupational Standards, Nursing Progress Log and CBI Employability Skills**

<b>Modules</b>	<b>National Occupational Standards for Veterinary Nursing and Auxiliary Services (July 2010)</b>	<b>RCVS Nursing Progress Log 2016</b>	<b>CBI Employability Skills</b>
Animal Anatomy and Physiology	Underpins study		
Nutrition and Breeding of Domesticated Animals	CU37; AUX6;RVN4, RVN9, RVN10		
Supporting Sick Animals	RVN6, RVN7, RVN8, RVN9, RVN10, RVN11, CU2, RVN17, RVN29, RVN30		CBI2
Process and Practice of a Veterinary Business	AC3, AC7, AUX1, AUX2, AUX3, A4, CU129, CU2, Cu5a, CU7.2, RVN4, RVN8, RVN21, AUX7		CBI2; CBI3
Introduction to Companion Animal Behaviour (optional)			
Introduction to Equine and Livestock Management (optional)			

<b>Modules</b>	<b>National Occupational Standards for Veterinary Nursing and Auxiliary Services (July 2010)</b>	<b>RCVS Nursing Progress Log 2016</b>	<b>CBI Employability Skills</b>
Introduction to Evidence Based Nursing and Research Concepts	CU5; RVN31		CB1; CBI4; CBI5; CBI6; CBI7
Diagnostics for Veterinary Practice	RVN12, RVN13; RVN14; RVN18; RVN19; RVN20;		CBI2; CBI6
Surgical Nursing and Theatre Practice	RVN7, RVN23, RVN24, RVN25		CBI2
Veterinary Pharmacy and Medicines	AUX7; RVN 9; RVN10; RVN 15 RVN29; RVN30 RVN31		CBI1; CBI2; CBI5 CBI6
Anaesthesia for Veterinary Nurses	RVN3; RVN5; RVN6; RVN7; RVN9; RVN10; RVN15; RVN16; RVN26; RVN27; RVN28; RVN31		CBI2 CBI4 CBI5 CBI6
Medical Nursing	RVN5; RVN12 RVN6; RVN7; RVN9; RVN15; RVN16; RVN31		CBI1; CBI2; CBI4; CBI5
Animal Behavioural Therapies (optional)			



<b>Modules</b>	<b>National Occupational Standards for Veterinary Nursing and Auxiliary Services (July 2010)</b>	<b>RCVS Nursing Progress Log 2016</b>	<b>CBI Employability Skills</b>
Veterinary Care and Management of Livestock (optional)			
Advanced Veterinary Nursing	RVN6, 7, 8, , 17 , 18, 20, 21, 22, 24, 28 and 31.		CBI1; CBI2; CBI4; CBI5
Professional Practice and Reflective Nursing	CU5; RVN31		CBI1; CBI2; CBI3; CBI4; CBI5; CBI6; CBI7
Work-Related Project			CBI1; CBI2; CBI3; CBI4; CBI5; CBI6; CBI7
Business Skills and Practice Management			

## Appendix 2i - Curriculum Map for Foundation Degree Veterinary Nursing

This map provides a design aid to help identify where the generic and award specific outcomes are being developed and assessed within the course, by specified modules. It also provides a check list for quality assurance purposes and could be used in validation, accreditation and external examining processes by making the learning outcomes transparent. In this way, it also helps students monitor their own learning, personal and professional development as the course progresses. The map shows only the main broadly defined measurable learning outcomes.

		Award Outcomes																						
		Knowledge & Understanding					Intellectual skills					Practical/Professional					Transferable Skills							
		C/O	a	b	c	d	E	f	g	h	i	j	k	l	m	n	o	p	q	r	s	t	u	
LEVEL 4	Animal Anatomy and Physiology	C	✓					✓	✓															
	Diagnostics for Veterinary Practice	C	✓						✓	✓			✓				✓		✓	✓			✓	
	Introduction to Evidence Based Nursing and Research Concepts	C		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Nutrition and Breeding of Domestic Animals	C	✓					✓	✓					✓					✓	✓	✓			
	Process and Practice of a Veterinary Business	C		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Surgical Nursing and Theatre Practice	C		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓			✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	
	Supporting Sick Animals	C		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓			✓	✓					✓	✓				
	Equine and Livestock Management	O	✓	✓				✓	✓		✓	✓			✓	✓			✓		✓			✓
	Introduction to Companion Animal Behaviour	O		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓					✓		✓	✓	✓			✓
LEVEL 5	Advanced Veterinary Nursing	C	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓			✓	✓			✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Anaesthesia for Veterinary Nurses	C	✓					✓	✓			✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
	Pharmacy and Medicines	C			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
	Business and Practice Management	C					✓	✓	✓				✓				✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Medical Nursing		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓			✓		✓	✓				
	Professional Practice and Reflective Nursing	C		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Work Related Project – Improving Veterinary Nursing Practice and Client Care	C						✓	✓	✓	✓			✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Animal Behavioural and Therapies	O		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				✓			✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
	Veterinary Care and Management for Livestock	O	✓	✓				✓	✓		✓	✓			✓	✓			✓		✓			✓

## Key to outcomes listed on Curriculum Map:

### Outcomes:

- (a) Demonstrate an understanding of the anatomical and physiological characteristics of a range of animals;
- (b) Identify the impact of clinical conditions, veterinary diagnosis and treatment on the health of animals, and their consequent need for supportive nursing care;
- (c) Devise appropriate animal nursing strategies for sick and injured animals, incorporating consideration of environmental, nutritional and behavioural needs;
- (d) Appropriately advise and support clients in the care of their animals;
- (e) Discuss the business of veterinary nursing and identify the appropriate skills required for the effective management of a veterinary practice.
- (f) Collect, select and critically assemble and evaluate information from a wide variety of information types and evidence;
- (g) Marshal evidence, by reference where appropriate to primary sources and knowledge at the forefront of the discipline, and apply it in a balanced way in to an argument;
- (h) Select and apply appropriate scientific or technical principles to the diagnosis, analysis and solution of complex and unpredictable problems;
- (i) Demonstrate familiarity with, and understanding of, the important facts and principles in a broad field of study and an awareness of the provisional nature of knowledge and theory;
- (j) Assess the ethical dimensions and wider consequences of human activities, to optimise economic, community and environmental sustainability;
- (k) Select and apply clinical skills appropriate to the role of a professional veterinary nurse;
- (l) Apply knowledge and understanding of the Veterinary Nursing field to make competent and informed contribution to the work environment;
- (m) Identify the roles and responsibilities of each member of the veterinary team to ensure the health and welfare of the animal and understand the limitations of the veterinary nursing role and the need to refer responsibly;
- (n) Demonstrate safe working practices and advise others accordingly.
- (o) Communicate clearly and effectively using written, verbal and visual media;
- (p) Manipulate and interpret complex sets of data, assess their reliability and present them in an appropriate format;
- (q) Display the transferable skills and ability to acquire new competencies required for career progression, including the acquisition of applied workplace skills;
- (r) Demonstrate the ability to establish effective working relationships with others, defining, sharing and delegating responsibility within a group;
- (s) Use a range of technological equipment and systems;
- (t) Use information technology effectively;
- (u) Engage in career and personal development so as to deepen their knowledge and develop further skills by using opportunities for lifelong learning.

## Appendix 2ii - Curriculum Map for Foundation Degree Health Studies

This map provides a design aid to help identify where the generic and award specific outcomes are being developed and assessed within the course, by specified modules. It also provides a check list for quality assurance purposes and could be used in validation, accreditation and external examining processes by making the learning outcomes transparent. In this way, it also helps students monitor their own learning, personal and professional development as the course progresses. The map shows only the main broadly defined measurable learning outcomes. **Award Outcomes**

		Award Outcomes																						
		Knowledge & Understanding					Intellectual skills					Practical/Professional					Transferable Skills							
		C/O	a	b	c	d	E	f	g	h	i	j	k	l	m	n	o	p	q	r	s	t	u	
LEVEL 4	Animal Anatomy and Physiology	C	✓					✓	✓															
	Diagnostics for Veterinary Practice	C	✓						✓	✓			✓				✓		✓	✓			✓	
	Introduction to Evidence Based Nursing and Research Concepts	C		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Nutrition and Breeding of Domestic Animals	C	✓					✓	✓					✓					✓	✓	✓			
	Process and Practice of a Veterinary Business	C		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Surgical Nursing and Theatre Practice	C		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓			✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	
	Supporting Sick Animals	C		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓			✓	✓					✓	✓				
	Equine and Livestock Management	O	✓	✓				✓	✓		✓	✓				✓	✓			✓		✓		✓
	Introduction to Companion Animal Behaviour	O		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓					✓		✓	✓	✓			✓
LEVEL 5	Advanced Veterinary Nursing	C	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓			✓	✓			✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Anaesthesia for Veterinary Nurses	C	✓					✓	✓			✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Pharmacy and Medicines	C			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
	Business and Practice Management	C					✓	✓	✓				✓				✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Medical Nursing		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓			✓		✓	✓				
	Professional Practice and Reflective Nursing	C		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Work Related Project – Improving Veterinary Nursing Practice and Client Care	C						✓	✓	✓	✓			✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Animal Behavioural and Therapies	O		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				✓			✓	✓	✓			✓
	Veterinary Care and Management for Livestock	O	✓	✓				✓	✓		✓	✓			✓	✓			✓		✓			✓

## Key to outcomes listed on Curriculum Map:

### Outcomes:

- (a) Demonstrate an understanding of the anatomical and physiological characteristics of a range of animals;
- (b) Identify the impact of clinical conditions, veterinary diagnosis and treatment on the health of animals, and their consequent need for supportive nursing care;
- (c) Devise appropriate animal nursing strategies for sick and injured animals, incorporating consideration of environmental, nutritional and behavioural needs;
- (d) Appropriately advise and support clients in the care of their animals;
- (e) Discuss the business of veterinary nursing and identify the appropriate skills required for the effective management of a veterinary practice.
- (f) Collect, select and critically assemble and evaluate information from a wide variety of information types and evidence;
- (g) Marshal evidence, by reference where appropriate to primary sources and knowledge at the forefront of the discipline, and apply it in a balanced way in to an argument;
- (h) Select and apply appropriate scientific or technical principles to the diagnosis, analysis and solution of complex and unpredictable problems;
- (i) Demonstrate familiarity with, and understanding of, the important facts and principles in a broad field of study and an awareness of the provisional nature of knowledge and theory;
- (j) Assess the ethical dimensions and wider consequences of human activities, to optimise economic, community and environmental sustainability;
- (k) Select and apply clinical skills appropriate to the role of a professional veterinary nurse;
- (l) Apply knowledge and understanding of the Veterinary Nursing field to make competent and informed contribution to the work environment;
- (m) Identify the roles and responsibilities of each member of the veterinary team to ensure the health and welfare of the animal and understand the limitations of the veterinary nursing role and the need to refer responsibly;
- (n) Demonstrate safe working practices and advise others accordingly.
- (o) Communicate clearly and effectively using written, verbal and visual media;
- (p) Manipulate and interpret complex sets of data, assess their reliability and present them in an appropriate format;
- (q) Display the transferable skills and ability to acquire new competencies required for career progression, including the acquisition of applied workplace skills;
- (r) Demonstrate the ability to establish effective working relationships with others, defining, sharing and delegating responsibility within a group;
- (s) Use a range of technological equipment and systems;
- (t) Identify and evaluate the potential professional conflicts surrounding ethical practise, demonstrating an ability to manage issues encountered by veterinary nurses;
- u) Engage in career and personal development so as to deepen their knowledge and develop further skills by using opportunities for lifelong learning.

*Appendix 3 - Mapping of Revised Day One Skills for Veterinary Nurses (2016)*

Revised Day One Skills for Veterinary Nurses

Section 1 Legislation affecting practice

3. Demonstrate knowledge of the organisation and legislation related to a veterinary business

4. Promote, monitor and maintain health and safety in the veterinary setting, demonstrate knowledge of systems of quality assurance; apply principles of risk management to their practice

21. Recognise suspicious signs of possible notifiable, reportable and zoonotic diseases and take appropriate action, including observing the appropriate health and safety recommendations.

Skill Number	Skill	Module	Guidance
1	Comply with health and Safety requirements and local risk factors.	Process and Practice of a Veterinary Business	Comply with legislative requirements
2	Follow Standard Operating Procedures and manufacturer guidelines when using equipment and materials.	Process and Practice of a Veterinary Business	
3	Take appropriate action and report injury to self and others.	Process and Practice of a Veterinary Business	
4	Carry out a risk assessment for one area of the practice and instigate appropriate action.	Process and Practice of a Veterinary Business	
5	Comply with the requirements for reporting notifiable diseases and	Process and Practice of a Veterinary Business	Professional discussion in relation to notifiable diseases and reporting

	reportable diseases and injuries under RIDDOR.		is an acceptable assessment method for this skill.
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## Section 2 Communication

5. Communicate effectively with the clients, the public, professional colleagues and responsible authorities, using language appropriate to the audience concerned.
6. Prepare accurate clinical and client records, and laboratory reports when necessary, in a form satisfactory to colleagues and understandable by the public.
7. Work effectively as a member of a multi-disciplinary team in the delivery of services.
8. Understand the economic and emotional context in which the veterinary nurse operates.
9. Be able to review and evaluate literature and presentations critically.
10. Understand and apply principles of clinical governance and practise evidence-based veterinary nursing.
11. Demonstrate ability to cope with incomplete information, deal with contingences, and adapt to change.
19. Communicate clearly and collaborate with referral and diagnostic services, ensuring they receive an appropriate history from the veterinary surgeon.
31. Understand the appropriate need for euthanasia; sensitively support the owner and others with due regard for health and safety of those present; advise on disposal of carcass.
32. Advise clients on programmes of preventative medicines appropriate to species.



Skill Number	Skill	Module	Guidance
1.	Communicate effectively using a variety of different methods.	Process and Practice of a Veterinary Business.	Communicate with clients, work colleagues, other veterinary professionals and the public. Communication models should be followed where appropriate.
2.	Create accurate and legible written communication according to practice policy.	Process and Practice of a Veterinary Business.	Records to include; patient records and reports, laboratory reports, admission and consent forms, client home-care plans and instructions.
3.	Access and store client and practice records according to practice policy.	Process and Practice of a Veterinary Business.	
4.	Admit patients	Process and Practice of a Veterinary Business.	Obtain written and verbal informed consent. Respond appropriately to economic status of clients to include insurance and charity referrals.
5.	Conduct effective nursing consultations	Process and Practice of a Veterinary Business.  Supporting Sick Animals	History taking and appropriate examination. Identifying patients for referral to a veterinary surgeon; application of treatment; programmes of preventative medicines; implant a microchip.
6.	Provide discharge information and guidance to owners.	Process and Practice of a Veterinary Business.  Supporting Sick Animals	Advise clients on safe and correct routes of administration and potential side effects; demonstrate to clients safe techniques for administering medication; advise

			clients on the storage and disposal of medication; wound care advice; bandage advice.
7.	Complete appropriate paperwork for referral and diagnostic services.	Process and Practice of a Veterinary Business.  Supporting Sick Animals  Diagnostics for Veterinary Practice	To include laboratory samples; clinical histories and hereditary tests.
8.	Practise evidence-based nursing.	Evidence based Nursing	Appraise literature; discuss findings with practice team.
9.	Collaborate with inter-professional colleagues to improve professional practice and relationships	Process and Practice of a Veterinary Business.  Supporting Sick Animals	Consult the veterinary team in the event of unexpected medical or surgical complications; serious complaint; accident or anaesthetic death; consider mitigating circumstances; ensure effective protocols are in place; communicate changes to the practice team.
10.	Communicate effectively expressing appropriate empathy and sympathy	Process and Practice of a Veterinary Business.  Supporting Sick Animals	Prepare the owner for loss; support the owner through the euthanasia process; provide follow-up support for a bereaved owner; maintain and adapt professional approach to the circumstances.

### Section 3. Handling and Restraint

14. Handle and restrain animal patients safely and humanely, and instruct others in helping the veterinary surgeon perform these techniques.

Skill Number	Skill	Module	Guidance
1.	Evaluate behavioural and environmental factors when approaching and handling animals.	Supporting Sick Animals	Recognition of and minimising fear and distress.
2.	Transport animals using appropriate manual handling and lifting procedures	Supporting Sick Animals	
3.	Select and wear appropriate personal protective equipment	Supporting Sick Animals	
4.	Demonstrate techniques for approaching and catching animals.	Supporting Sick Animals	
5.	Lead and move animals using the most appropriate equipment for the species.	Supporting Sick Animals	
6.	Use appropriate restraint methods suitable for patient and situation with due consideration for animal welfare.	Supporting Sick Animals Advanced Veterinary Nursing.	Maintain patient's emotional homeostasis and wellbeing; recognise signs of distress and act accordingly to minimise this; restrain for clinical examination; sample collection. Administration

			of medicines and introduction of an appropriate airway management device.
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#### Section 4 Nursing Care

15. Deliver nursing care in accordance with best practice and due regard to animal welfare

16. Develop appropriate care plans and administer care in the interests of the patients and with regard to the resources available

17. Administer emergency first aid and assist with the provision of emergency treatment to animals.

24. Be aware of suspected adverse reactions and alert the veterinary surgeon.

30. assess pain and alert the veterinary surgeon.

Skill Number	Skill	Module	Guidance
1.	Use an appropriate model of care to deliver the nursing process and create care plans for a range of disorders and diseases	Supporting Sick Animals	Interpret nursing care plans and carry out appropriate nursing interventions
2.	Carry out a nursing assessment	Supporting Sick Animals	Food and fluid intake; urination and

	ascertaining information about the patients normal routine		defecation; behaviour (response to pain, strangers, commands etc.); mobility; sleep and rest; maintain your own hygiene levels
3.	Perform a clinical examination and record findings	Supporting Sick Animals	To include temperature, pulse, respiration, weight and capillary refill times/mucous membranes
4.	Provide husbandry to animals within a veterinary setting; accommodation, nutrition and excretions	Supporting Sick Animals	Consider age, species, condition, demeanour and enrichment. Undertake a nutritional assessment according to WSAVA guidelines. Calculate food requirements based on disease and life stage/lifestyle, manage assisted feeding to include hand feeding, oral hydration and managing and maintaining assisted feeding tubes
5.	Groom and bathe patients according to their needs	Supporting Sick Animals	
6.	Assess, monitor, manage and report the status of wounds	Supporting Sick Animals	
7.	Apply dressings appropriate to type of wound	Supporting Sick Animals	
8.	Apply bandages appropriate to species and condition	Supporting Sick Animals	
9.	Administer medicines prescribed by the veterinary surgeon in accordance	Veterinary Pharmacy and Medicines	To include oral, topical, subcutaneous, intramuscular and

	with instructions from the manufacturer		intravenous
10.	Monitor for adverse medication reactions and alert veterinary surgeon	Veterinary Pharmacy and Medicines	
11.	Provide fluid therapy to in-patients	Veterinary Pharmacy and Medicines Supporting Sick Animals Medical Nursing	Select appropriate fluids according to veterinary surgeon instructions; select and prepare administration equipment; place intravenous catheters into appropriate veins; intravenous catheter management; calculate amount and rate of fluid to administer; observe and monitor patients receiving fluids
12.	Assess pain and alert the veterinary surgeon	Veterinary Pharmacy and Medicines Supporting Sick Animals	Score and evaluate pain using a validated system; intensity of pain and associated anxiety and behaviour
13.	Perform basic physical therapy techniques to aid mobilisation	Medical Nursing	To include passive movement and active exercise
14.	Administer first aid for a range of situations within the limits of law and the expertise of the student	Supporting Sick Animals	
15.	Assist with a range of emergency care techniques	Supporting Sick Animals Advanced Vet Nursing	

Section 5 Laboratory techniques

15. Deliver nursing care in accordance with best practice and due regard to animal welfare

Skill Number	Skill	Module	Guidance
1.	Discuss with the veterinary surgeon and prepare for an appropriate sampling strategy	Diagnostics for Veterinary Practice	Strategy to include: personal protective equipment (PPE), clipping and preparing sample site, preparation of patient and equipment; calibration of

			equipment. Strategies prepared for: blood, urine, faeces, skin/hair and tissue biopsies
2.	Take appropriate samples	Diagnostics for Veterinary Practice	Samples to include: blood, urine, faeces, skin, hair pluck, bacterial swabs
3.	Carry out haematological analysis	Diagnostics for Veterinary Practice	To include: biochemistry, haematology, packed cell volume, total solids and smear
4.	Carry out urinalysis	Diagnostics for Veterinary Practice	To include: specific gravity, sediment analysis
5.	Carry out faecal analysis	Diagnostics for Veterinary Practice	May include: gross visual analysis; microscopic analysis; quantitative examination; Baermann technique or commercial test kits
6.	Carry out skin and hair analysis	Diagnostics for Veterinary Practice	To include: hair pluck, tape strips and coat brushings
7.	Use a microscope	Diagnostics for Veterinary Practice	To include: low magnification, high magnification and oil immersion. Record Vernier Scale reading
8.	Prepare samples for external analysis (this skill links to communication skill 7)	Diagnostics for Veterinary Practice	To include: accurate completion of documentation, correct packaging and labelling, correct preservation and storage
9.	Record laboratory test results and communicate accurately to the appropriate clinician	Diagnostics for Veterinary Practice	



## Section 6 Diagnostic imaging

20. Prepare and conduct diagnostic imaging and other techniques carrying out the procedure in accordance with good health and safety and current regulations.

Skill Number	Skill	Module	Guidance
1.	Prepare and use radiography equipment to produce a diagnostic image	Diagnostics for Veterinary Practice	
2.	Use appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) and radiation monitoring equipment in accordance with practice local rules	Diagnostics for Veterinary Practice	
3.	Position a patient to obtain a diagnostic image of the area of interest	Diagnostics for Veterinary Practice	A variety of species and positions would be expected
4.	Process images according to practice procedure	Diagnostics for Veterinary Practice	
5.	Record exposures and results of images according to practice procedure	Diagnostics for Veterinary Practice	Appraise the quality of the image
6.	Prepare and support animals during endoscopy investigation	Diagnostics for Veterinary Practice	
7.	Prepare and support animals during ultrasound investigation	Diagnostics for Veterinary Practice	

## Section 7 Dispensing

22. Access the appropriate sources of data on licensed medicines

23. Dispense medicines correctly and responsibly in accordance with veterinary surgeon direction, legislation and latest guidance.

Skill Number	Skill	Module	Guidance
1.	Ensure safe handling and management of pharmaceuticals in accordance with legislation	Veterinary Pharmacy and Medicines	Store, handle and dispose of medicines in line with legislative guidelines and specific requirements found in the Summary of Product Characteristics (SPC) and with reference to their drug category.  To include: controlled drugs and cytotoxic/cytostatic/certain hormonal medicines which require special handling and disposal
2.	Interpret prescriptions and prepare medicines for dispensing	Veterinary Pharmacy and Medicines	Calculate drug dosages and confirm with colleague; package and label in accordance with legal requirements
3.	Maintain appropriate records	Veterinary Pharmacy and Medicines	Controlled drugs (CDs) Medicines records

## Section 8 Infection control

21. Recognise suspicious signs of possible notifiable, reportable and zoonotic diseases and take appropriate action, including observing the appropriate health and safety recommendations

25. Apply principles of bio-security correctly, including sterilisation of equipment and disinfection of clothing

Skill Number	Skill	Module	Guidance
1.	Recognise clinical signs of common notifiable and zoonotic diseases and undertake strategies to prevent spread and infection	Process and Practice of a Veterinary Business Supporting Sick Animals	See also section 1 part 5
2.	Formulate and implement an appropriate infection control strategy according to practice protocol	Process and Practice of a Veterinary Business Supporting Sick Animals	Constitute appropriate cleaning and disinfectant solutions; prepare, clean and maintain patient accommodation that maximises the welfare of hospitalised patients to include isolation accommodation; prepare, clean and maintain examination rooms, preparation area and operating theatre to include periodic deep clean and after infected cases
3.	Dispose of hazardous and non-hazardous waste safely and correctly according to current legislation	Process and Practice of a Veterinary Business Supporting Sick Animals	
4.	Ensure appropriate hygiene skills are followed before and after handling animals and equipment	Process and Practice of a Veterinary Business Supporting Sick Animals	Comply with the World Health Organisation hand washing method; use and dispose of PPE
5.	Carry out effective barrier nursing	Process and Practice of a Veterinary Business Supporting Sick Animals	Taking into account accommodation, PPE, equipment and patient condition

Section 9 Theatre practice

26. Prepare the environment, equipment and patient for aseptic surgery

27. Assist the veterinary surgeon as a scrubbed nurse to perform surgical procedures on patients

Skill Number	Skill	Module	Guidance
1.	Check and clean surgical instruments	Surgical Nursing and Theatre Practice	Identify common surgical instruments; identify and report damage to equipment and instruments
2.	Prepare package and monitor the sterilisation of instruments and materials	Surgical Nursing and Theatre Practice	
3.	Prepare the theatre for use based on equipment and procedure	Surgical Nursing and Theatre Practice	
4.	Position patients appropriately on the operating table in accordance with the planned procedure taking into account patient condition	Surgical Nursing and Theatre Practice	
5.	Prepare the surgical site appropriately for the procedure in accordance with veterinary surgeon's preference	Surgical Nursing and Theatre Practice	
6.	Assist as circulating nurse	Surgical Nursing and Theatre Practice	Open and pass sterile materials direct to scrubbed personnel; prepare ancillary and powered equipment
7.	Prepare hands and arms using appropriate method	Surgical Nursing and Theatre Practice	
8.	Prepare for surgical assistance	Surgical Nursing and Theatre	Don gown and gloves (closed

	wearing appropriate attire	Practice	gloving method) in an aseptic manner to assist with surgery
9.	Put on surgical gloves (open gloving method) in an aseptic manner to assist with sterile procedures	Surgical Nursing and Theatre Practice	Maintain sterility
10.	Maintain sterility of self and others during procedures	Surgical Nursing and Theatre Practice	
11.	Assist with draping patient maintaining sterility	Surgical Nursing and Theatre Practice	
12.	Monitor and record materials during surgery	Surgical Nursing and Theatre Practice	
13.	Handle and pass instruments and equipment aseptically during surgery	Surgical Nursing and Theatre Practice	

## Section 10 Anaesthesia

28. Assist the veterinary surgeon by preparing patients, equipment and materials for anaesthetic procedures

29. Assist in administering and maintaining anaesthesia to patients

Skill Number	Skill	Module	Guidance
1.	Assess the patient's anaesthetic risks	Anaesthesia for Veterinary Nurses	To include ASA guidelines, behaviour and temperament
2.	Prepare for anaesthesia	Anaesthesia for Veterinary Nurses	Check and prepare the anaesthetic machine in accordance with practice protocol; select and prepare breathing system/circuit and pollution control system in accordance with practice protocol;

			select and prepare monitoring equipment according to the patient's condition; prepare materials and equipment required for induction of anaesthesia to include pharmaceutical agents (according to veterinary surgeon direction) and appropriate airway management device
3.	Prepare patients for Anaesthesia	Anaesthesia for Veterinary Nurses	Administer prescribed pre-medicants and assess the patient's response; introduce airway management device (check position and secure airway management)
4.	Maintain and monitor the patient during the anaesthetic process	Anaesthesia for Veterinary Nurses	Measure temperature, heart rate, central and peripheral pulse, respiratory rate; evaluation depth of anaesthesia; monitor equipment (systems/circuits and tube, gasses and volatile agents, patient monitors); interpret and report observations to the directing veterinary surgeon (inconsistencies, patient monitors); calculate and administer inhalation anaesthesia under veterinary direction (change the depth or level of inhalation anaesthesia under

			veterinary direction)
5.	Complete anaesthetic monitoring records	Anaesthesia for Veterinary Nurses	

6.	Supervise recovery from Anaesthesia	Anaesthesia for Veterinary Nurses	Disconnect patients from anaesthetic equipment and materials; position patients for recovery; remove airway management device at appropriate stage of recovery; maintain accurate recovery records; communicate post-operative and/or anaesthetic recovery progress to the supervising veterinary surgeon
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