Royal Veterinary College
University of London

PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION

1. Applies to cohort commencing in:	2025
2. Degree Granting Body	University of London
3. Awarding institution	The Royal Veterinary College
4. Teaching institution	The Royal Veterinary College (University of London)
5. Programme accredited by	N/A
6. Name and title	Postgraduate Diploma in Veterinary Clinical Practice (PG Dip VCP). Equine/Diagnostic Imaging (EDImag)/Surgery-Weighted/Exotic Animal/Production Animal/Small Animal
7. Intermediate and Subsidiary Award(s)	N/A
8. Course Management Team	Dr Stefano Cortellini (Course Director) Ass. Prof. Richard Booth (Deputy Course Director)
9. FHEQ Level of Final Award	Level 7 See Office for Students (OfS) Sector-recognised standards
10. Date of First Intake	Monday 27th June 2016
11. Frequency of Intake	Annually in June
12. Duration and Mode(s) of Study	54 weeks (usually), full time Face to face.
13. Registration Period *(must be in line with the General Regulations for Study and Award)*	Full Time Minimum: 12 months; Maximum: 24 months
14. Timing of Examination Board meetings	Annually in June
15. Date of Last Periodic Review	June 2022
16. Date of Next Periodic Review	2028
17. Language of study and assessment	English
18. Entry Requirements	https://www.rvc.ac.uk/study/postgraduate/internships/small-animal#tab-entry-requirements
19. UCAS code	N/A
20. HECoS Code	100531 – Veterinary Medicine
21. Relevant QAA subject benchmark	N/A
22. Other External Reference Points	
Office for Students (OfS) Sector-recognised standards	

23. Aims of programme

The programme aims to produce graduates:

- Eligible to use this award as a prerequisite for entry into European or American Veterinary Specialty Colleges
- Eligible to apply for a residency / senior clinical training scholarship (MVetMed/Professional Doctorate or equivalent programme)
- with critical analysis skills and experience in literature review and interpreting clinical research
- with excellent communication and small group teaching skills, who are able to take advantage of current developments in information technology
- With excellent clinical, non-clinical and transferrable skills, including reflection and self-directed learning, and able to provide standard of care patients' and clients' management in primary practice

24. Overall Programme Level Learning Outcomes - the programme offers opportunities for students to achieve and demonstrate the following learning outcomes. Learning outcomes should be specified for all intermediate awards as well as for the terminal award.

Knowledge and understanding of: • clinical disciplines to a level higher than an undergraduate • pathophysiological principles related to the species and clinical context • related clinical disciplines • basic analysis of clinical or laboratory data • ethical and welfare issues relating to clinical practice, teaching and research • new developments in the relevant area of clinical expertise	Modules in which each learning outcome will be developed and assessed: All modules will develop and assess the learning outcomes.
Cognitive (thinking) skills: • Planning • Logic • Comprehension • Visual and auditory processing	All modules will develop and assess the learning outcomes.
Practical skills and Abilities: • Proficiency in dealing with complex clinical or diagnostic cases under supervision • Proficiency in dealing with emergency care • Comprehension of diagnostic and therapeutic procedures • Organisational skills • Interpersonal skills • An ability to communicate clearly to both scientific and non-scientific personnel	All modules will develop and assess the learning outcomes.
• Basic Presentation skills, including ad hoc small group teaching • Information technology skills	All modules will develop and assess the learning outcomes.
25. Teaching/learning methods	**Approximate total number of hours**

Participation in: • Management of clinical cases under supervision • Clinical rounds • Journal clubs • Friday morning seminars (Small Animal and Equine Pathways) • Intern specific seminars (and training days) (Production Animal Pathway) • Preparation and delivery of an oral presentation of 15-minute duration (e.g. for peer group or department)	N/A
26. Assessment methods	**Percentage of total assessment load**
Each module will be assessed by a case report and workplace based assessments (WPBA). For each module the student will need to complete a written case report. WPBA for each module; 1 x Mini Clinical Evaluation Exercise (MiniCEX) or 1 x Case Based Discussion (CbD) Plus 3 x any of the following: an (additional) MiniCEX, or an (additional) CbD, or a Direct Observation of Practical Skills (DOPS) Students may substitute 1 of above for 1 x Presentation Feedback in 2 modules (one for presenting journal club and will be assessed with the Journal Club assessment form, and one for presenting seminar, assessed with the College marking scheme for oral presentations). A minimum of 1 x MiniCEX or CbD, plus another WPBA (MiniCEX, CbD, DOPS or Presentation Feedback) should be assessed as 'PG Student Competent'. 2 x Multi-Source Feedback will complete the requirements for each module.	N/A
27. Feedback	
Students will be given feedback throughout the course. Students will be given feedback for all case reports and WPBA. The WPBA will be used both formatively and summatively.	

28. Programme structures and requirements, levels, modules, credits and awards				
	Module Title	FHEQ Level	Credits	Compulsory or optional
PG Diploma VCP (Small Animal Pathway)		7	120 Total	4 Compulsory
Year 1	Small Animal (SA) Medicine	7	30	Compulsory
Year 1	SA Anaesthesia	7	30	Compulsory
Year 1	SA Surgery	7	30	Compulsory
Year 1	SA Diagnostic Surgery	7	30	Compulsory
PG Diploma VCP (Equine Pathway)		7	120 Total	4 Compulsory
Year 1	Equine (EQ) Medicine	7	30	Compulsory
Year 1	EQ Anaesthesia	7	30	Compulsory
Year 1	EQ Surgery	7	30	Compulsory
Year 1	EQ Diagnostic Imaging	7	30	Compulsory
PG Diploma VCP (Equine Surgery-Weighted Pathway)		7	120 Total	4 Compulsory
Year 1	Equine (EQ) Medicine	7	30	Compulsory
Year 1	EQ Anaesthesia	7	30	Compulsory
Year 1	EQ Surgery	7	30	Compulsory
Year 1	EQ Diagnostic Imaging	7	30	Compulsory
PG Diploma VCP (Equine Diagnostic Imaging Pathway) (EDImag)		7	120 Total	4 Compulsory
Year 1	Equine (EQ) Computed tomography	7	30	Compulsory
Year 1	EQ radiology and ultrasound	7	30	Compulsory
Year 1	EQ Magnetic Resonance Imaging	7	30	Compulsory
Year 1	EQ Scintigraphy	7	30	Compulsory
PG Diploma VCP (Production Animal Pathway)		7	120 Total	2 Compulsory + 2 Optional
Year 1	Production Animal (PA) Cattle 1 - Individual	7	30	Compulsory
Year 1	PA Cattle 2 - Herd	7	30	Compulsory
Year 1	PA Cattle 3 - Individual	7	30	Optional
Year 1	PA Cattle 4 - Herd	7	30	Optional
Year 1	PA Camelid 1 - Individual	7	30	Optional

Year 1	PA Camelid 2 - Herd	7	30	Optional

Year 1	PA Pig 1 - Individual	7	30	Optional
Year 1	PA Pig 2 - Herd	7	30	Optional
Year 1	PA Small Ruminant - Individual	7	30	Optional
Year 1	PA Small Ruminant - Flock	7	30	Optional
PG Diploma VCP (Exotic Animal Pathway)		7	30	4 Compulsory
Year 1	Exotic Animal (EA) Small Mammals	7	30	Compulsory
Year 1	EA Avian	7	30	Compulsory
Year 1	EA Reptiles	7	30	Compulsory
Year 1	EA Zoo/Wildlife	7	30	Compulsory
29. Work Placement Requirements or Opportunities		N/A		
30. Student Support		http://www.rvc.ac.uk/study/support-for-students		
31. Assessment Assessment and Award Regulations on RVC website: http://www.rvc.ac.uk/about/the-rvc/academic-quality-regulations-procedures				

Version Number	Amended by	Date
1.0	Lisa Harber	16.02.2021
1.1	Lisa Harber	25-02-2021
1.2	Lisa Harber	26-04-2021
1.3	Academic Quality Manager	27.04.2021
1.4	Academic Quality Manager	17.06.2021
1.5	Academic Quality Manager	05.04.2022
1.6	Course Director	23.07.2022
1.7	Course Director	25.09.2023
1.8	Lisa Harber	25.04.2024
1.9	Lisa Harber	18.06.2025