

LEVEL 3 CERTIFICATE IN SMALL ANIMAL HYDROTHERAPY



Canine Therapies Academy

All staff teaching and assessing the course are well-qualified to take on their role and ensure high standards of teaching and learning.

For every unit learners are expected to submit work **within 2 weeks of presentation**. Should a resubmission be needed, the Unit must be achieved within 4 weeks. In the unlikely event of not achieving the criteria after 3 submissions learners may be required to repeat the training, for which there will be financial implications. However, if learners struggle with a particular area of understanding after a presentation, they may request deferring the unit and attending a further training day before submitting any work; this will not incur any additional cost.

Some units may be presented in a combined way (for example, 2 delivered on the same day) so learners are asked to be aware of the additional time commitments when undertaking them and ensuring they can submit work within the same time frame of 2 weeks. The Units may not necessarily be studied in the order listed although the practical work (Units 6, 7, 8 and 9) will usually not be studied until all other Units have been successfully completed. The reason is to ensure that students have a good theoretic knowledge on which to base their practical experience.

<p>Unit 1: INTRODUCTION TO SMALL ANIMAL HYDROTHERAPY</p>	<p>This unit provides Learners with an overview of small animal hydrotherapy. By understanding and managing risks, the Learner will explore the different elements essential in providing safe practice.</p> <p>The unit is not intended to provide Learners with the level of skill and competence required to administer hydrotherapy treatments and Learners should not engage in any manipulation techniques unless qualified to do so. It is always imperative that learners act within their area of professional competence and personal limitations.</p> <p>There are no practical requirements for this unit.</p>
<p>Unit 2: SMALL ANIMAL ANATOMY & PHYSIOLOGY – SKELETAL & MUSCULAR</p>	<p>In this unit, Learners will explore the major elements of small animal structural anatomy essential for the hydrotherapist.</p> <p>To administer hydrotherapy treatment, it is vital that the hydrotherapist has a sound understanding of small animal structural anatomy and how the bones, muscles, tendons and ligaments work together to be able to link this to the individual treatment plan and effectively improve their knowledge of land-based movement and function.</p> <p>There are no practical requirements for this unit.</p>

<p>Unit 3: SMALL ANIMAL ANATOMY & PHYSIOLOGY – BODY SYSTEMS & FUNCTION</p>	<p>In this unit, Learners will explore the major elements of small animal body systems which are essential for the hydrotherapist.</p> <p>To administer hydrotherapy treatment, it is vital that the hydrotherapist has a sound understanding of small animal systems to be able to take account of any clinical precautions in the plan for an individual and to be able to understand how the body systems function and enable movement.</p>
<p>Unit 4: COMMON SMALL ANIMAL CONDITIONS</p>	<p>In this unit, Learners will explore how common small animal conditions and problems may impact on devising an individual hydrotherapy treatment programme. They will learn how to identify common conditions and problems and understand the considerations and management of small animal with specific challenges.</p> <p>The unit is not intended to provide Learners with the level of skill and competence required to diagnose conditions. It is imperative that at all times Learners act within their area of professional competence and personal limitations, seeking veterinary advice as appropriate. There are no practical requirements for this unit.</p>
<p>Unit 5: SMALL ANIMAL HEALTH STATUS AND FIRST AID</p>	<p>In this unit, Learners will understand the importance of maintaining the health and welfare for each small animal patient in their care.</p> <p>Learners will be able to undertake health checks essential for safe hydrotherapy practice.</p> <p>Learners will be able to recognise and manage a variety of small animal first aid emergencies.</p> <p>It is always imperative that learners act within their area of professional competence and personal limitations.</p> <p>This is a knowledge and practical based unit, with requirements to physically demonstrate learning.</p>
<p>Unit 6: SMALL ANIMAL ASSESSMENT PROCESS</p>	<p>It is a legal requirement for hydrotherapists to have a current referral for each small animal from a registered veterinary surgeon (RVS).</p> <p>Hydrotherapists need to be able to assess risk effectively, to include evaluating the small animal patient's suitability for hydrotherapy.</p> <p>This requires an assessment process to evaluate and provide a safe and a beneficial treatment plan using relevant risk assessment skills.</p> <p>This unit will enable the learner to understand the assessment process for safe practice. It is always imperative that learners act within their area of professional competence and personal limitations.</p> <p>This is a knowledge and practical based unit, with requirements to physically demonstrate learning.</p>

<p>Unit 7: PRACTICAL ADMINISTRATION OF HYDROTHERAPY TREATMENT IN THE POOL</p>	<p>In this unit, learners are required to prepare the environment and small animal patients for hydrotherapy. Learners will need to demonstrate how to manage a small animal during a hydrotherapy session in the pool to include effective administration of treatment techniques, monitoring and therapeutic interaction for each small animal as appropriate.</p> <p>Learners will consider the importance of appropriate aftercare in relation to advice to the owner, completion of appropriate documentation and record keeping appropriate for each case in the pool.</p> <p>This is a knowledge and practical based unit, with requirements to physically demonstrate learning. This unit requires 20 hours of practical training.</p>
<p>Unit 8: SMALL ANIMAL BEHAVIOUR FOR CLINICAL PRACTICE</p>	<p>In this unit, Learners will explore the importance of understanding small animal behaviours in context of the hydrotherapy setting. By developing effective communication skills with the small animal in a therapeutic setting, the hydrotherapist will develop skills to address the mismatch of communication skill differences between humans and small animals and offer a safer environment to deliver the hydrotherapy treatment.</p> <p>This unit will enable the learner to understand the behaviours seen in a therapeutic setting essential for safe practice. It is always imperative that learners act within their area of professional competence and personal limitations by working within their scope of practice and this does not mean they are behaviourists.</p> <p>There are no practical requirements for this unit.</p>
<p>Unit 9: INTRODUCTION TO AQUATIC TREADMILL PRACTICE</p>	<p>In this unit, Learners will understand how to safely use an aquatic treadmill for small animal hydrotherapy. Learners will use the basics of small animal gait analysis before, during and after a hydrotherapy session.</p> <p>This unit will also include the learner administering treatment techniques, monitoring, evaluation, and therapeutic interaction for each small animal as appropriate. Learners will also consider the importance of appropriate aftercare in relation to advice to the owner. It is always imperative that learners act within their professional scope of practice. Learners should not engage in any manipulation techniques unless qualified to do so.</p> <p>Note: Preparation and after care of the small animal for a hydrotherapy treatment session is assessed in the pool unit.</p> <p>This is a knowledge and practical based unit, with requirements to physically demonstrate learning. This unit requires 10 hours of practical training.</p>

<p>Unit 10: WATER MANAGEMENT</p>	<p>In this unit, Learners will understand the importance of safe and effective water management for small animal hydrotherapy. Learners will explore the functions of the various pieces of plant and equipment, water chemistry, the relationship of the various chemicals used and management processes essential for safe practice.</p> <p>It is always imperative that learners act within current health and safety legislation and work within their professional scope of practice and understand their limitations.</p> <p>It is expected that learners will undertake the practical elements of this unit under the supervision of an appropriately qualified professional.</p> <p>This is a knowledge and practical based unit, with requirements to physically demonstrate learning. This unit requires 5 hours of practical training.</p>
<p>Unit 11: PROFESSIONAL & ETHICAL PRACTICE</p>	<p>In this unit, Learners will explore the importance of professional, ethical and legal responsibilities for their hydrotherapy practice.</p> <p>An effective multidisciplinary team approach to optimise safe hydrotherapy practice is a part of this commitment. Learners are also required to commit to their own continuing professional development as part of their career journey.</p> <p>There are no practical requirements for this unit.</p>