

Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons Practice Standards Scheme

Friars Moor are proud members of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons Practice Standards Scheme.

The Practice Standards Scheme is a voluntary initiative. Through setting standards and carrying out regular assessments, the Scheme aims to promote and maintain the highest standards of veterinary care. By taking part in this initiative we are also supporting one world health, a topic that is consistently making headlines around the world.

'One Health' is the effort of multiple disciplines, working locally, nationally, and globally, to attain optimal health for people, animals, and our environment. For more information visit <http://www.onehealthglobal.net/what-is-one-health/>

We have always had high standards for our cleanliness and infection control, however to pass the inspection we had to have a clear biosecurity policy. This covers personal hygiene, cleanliness of our premises and equipment. Procedures needed to be put in place to minimise cross infection and records to show that these policies are being met.

In 2016 the RCVS revised their criteria and in 2019 we had our first inspection under the new rules.

We used the Bella Moss Foundation for guidance in benchmarking these protocols. The Bella Moss Foundation is a charity which promotes prudent antimicrobial use and hygiene in human and veterinary medicine. It was set up in 2005 by Jill Moss, an actress, following the death of her dog, Bella, from a badly managed MRSA infection, and has developed into an international champion of good practice.

For Friars Moor this means each clinical area has a cleaning protocol specific to its requirements. These include what needs to be cleaned, how often and what equipment/chemicals to use. We keep a record of achievement as evidence for meeting our protocols that are audited on a regular basis.

All staff members have been trained and take pride in driving Friars Moor forward as part of the 'One Health' approach. In addition to this the Practice also works hard towards responsible antimicrobial use and have been recognised in the Parliamentary Review. The best practice article for Friars Moor Veterinary Clinic can be found online and viewed by following the link:

<https://www.theparliamentaryreview.co.uk/organisations/friars-moor-veterinary-clinic>

Antibiotic resistance is accelerated by the misuse and overuse of antibiotics, as well as poor infection prevention and control. Further information on antimicrobial resistance can be found at: <https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/antibiotic-resistance>

We support the use of vaccinations as a very effective way of stopping our patients from getting infected and thereby preventing the need for antibiotics.

We hope you will support us as we continue to put One Health first for both you and your pets. Please ask a team member if you'd like any more information.