

**Langford Veterinary Services**

**Job Description**

**Job Title:** Feline Centre Veterinary Nurse

**Reports To:** Head Medicine Nurse

**Job Purpose:**

The purpose of the post is to nurse cats to the highest standards of care and support the smooth operation of the clinical activities within the Feline Centre, Small Animal Hospital (SAH). This is achieved by assisting with nursing care and procedures in the Feline Centre, promoting excellent client communication, supervising veterinary and nursing undergraduate students and working within the Terms of the RCVS Guide to Professional Conduct for Nurses.

**Principal Accountabilities:**

- Constantly ensuring that cat friendly clinic principles are adopted throughout the SAH to enable the caring of cats to the highest of standards
- Organising and assisting veterinary clinicians with procedures to include endoscopy, chemotherapy, bronchoscopy, diagnostic imaging, administration of sedations and support for the hyperthyroid treatment service, discharge appointments
- Independently carry out feline nursing duties such as monitoring anaesthesia, intubating patients, assisting with diagnostic procedures, in-patient care, blood sampling, catheter placement, BP measurement, intravenous fluid therapy and nutritional tube feeding
- To provide restraint for blood sampling, sedations, treatments and physical examinations
- Daily nursing care of in-patients, to include cleaning out and feeding, placement of feeding tubes, daily record keeping, patient checks, grooming, pain scoring assessment and fluid therapy as required
- Dispensing and administering (under the direct supervision of a veterinary surgeon) medication to animals, maintaining accurate stock control and following all protocols relating to drug holding, dispensing and handling and giving clear and accurate instructions to clients when dispensing medication
- Assisting with stock control, maintaining working areas to a high standard and actively participating in Clinical Governance and Infection Control directives
- Maintaining accurate patient records with regards to all clinical notes, treatment, diagnoses, client communication and client /patient information
- Ensuring that all procedures and consumables are accurately entered onto the patients' records in order to keep the invoice up to date at all times during their stay

- Maintaining a good working relationship with all team members
- Communicating in an effective and pleasant manner with clients and colleagues
- Be actively involved in the teaching and support of nursing and veterinary undergraduate students, including providing feedback on their skills for assessments and promotion of cat friendly clinic principles
- Be responsible, when required, for providing inductions to nursing and veterinary undergraduate students on clinical rotations, as well as providing inductions to new staff in the Small Animal Hospital regarding cat friendly clinic principles
- Participating in a nurse rota for 40 hours per week, sharing OOH cover and working different shifts on a rotational basis (shift patterns are currently being evaluated but include working 12 hr shifts on weekends as part of the 40 hr week - generally a one in six rota)
- Carry out all other reasonable duties as requested by the line manager

## Person Specification

The skills, abilities, experience and knowledge outlined below provide a summary of what is required to carry out this job effectively.

Criteria	Essential	Desirable
<p><b>Relevant experience, Skills and Knowledge</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One year in veterinary practice or ability to prove similar levels of knowledge and experience</li> <li>• Able to carry out veterinary nursing duties as listed above</li> <li>• Confidence and experience in effective handling and restraint of cats</li> <li>• Experience in referral practice</li> <li>• Knowledge of cat friendly clinic</li> </ul>	<p style="text-align: center;">Yes</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Yes</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Yes</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Yes</p>	<p>Yes</p>
<p><b>Relevant Qualifications</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• RCVS Listed Veterinary Nurse or Nursing Degree</li> <li>• Advanced Diploma</li> <li>• ISFM Certificate or Diploma in Feline Nursing</li> <li>• Clinical Coach</li> </ul>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>Yes</p> <p>Yes</p> <p>Yes</p>
<p><b>Communication and Interpersonal Skills</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Communicating effectively with clients</li> <li>• Ability to work within a team</li> <li>• Ability to act independently</li> </ul>	<p style="text-align: center;">Yes</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Yes</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Yes</p>	
<p><b>Additional Criteria</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Flexible approach to work</li> <li>• Interest in advancing own qualifications if not already attained</li> <li>• Interested in teaching undergraduate students</li> <li>• Confidence in promoting cat friendly clinic principles within the small animal hospital</li> </ul>	<p style="text-align: center;">Yes</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Yes</p>	<p>Yes</p> <p>Yes</p>