



Scott Veterinary Clinic



News

Summer
2018

Opening hours

(excluding Bank Holidays)

Bedford:

Mon-Fri 08.30-19.00
Sat 09.00-17.00
Sun 09.00-12.00
405 Goldington Road
MK41 0DS
01234 261622

Sharnbrook:

Mon & Weds 09.00-19.00
Tues, Thurs & Fri 09.00-17.00
Sat/Sun Closed
44 High Street
MK44 1PF
01234 782204

Wixams:

Mon, Weds & Fri 09.00-17:00
Tues & Thurs 09:00-19:00
Sat/Sun Closed
(next to Garden Centre)
Bedford Road
MK45 3HU
01234 742423

Please specify your vet and branch preference when booking your appointment.

Top tips for keeping your pets



Cool this Summer

Our pets can enjoy the Summer weather too, provided they have access to shade, ventilation and of course, water.

So how do our pets cope with heat?

Dogs pant and also sweat from their paw pads. Cats tend to lick their fur. Their saliva cools them as it evaporates. Bunnies lose heat through the veins in their ears.

What can we do to help keep them comfortable?

- Add ice to water bottles and bowls
- Provide access to shady areas in the garden
- Move hutches into the shade and ensure they are well ventilated
- Avoid access to sheds and conservatories on hot days
- Set up your sprinkler
- Provide a cool wet towel for your pet to lie on or a bottle of frozen water (bunnies like to lean up against them, you could mist a bunnies ears with a fine water spray)
- Avoid exercising pets during the hottest part of the day (10am-3pm)
- Avoid walking your pet on hot pavements
- Offer pet friendly homemade frozen treats

How can we tell if our pet is too hot?

- Excessive panting
- Bright red tongue/gums
- Red, glazed eyes
- Feel hot to touch
- Drooling
- Weakness/stumbling/collapse

What should I do if concerned?

Initially remove them from the heat/direct sunlight and move them into a shaded area that is well ventilated if possible. Cool them down with tepid water, perhaps drape with a damp towel. Offer them water. If their symptoms don't improve call us!

Heatstroke can be fatal if not treated quickly. If you're unsure how serious it is, please call us and one of our team will provide advice:

01234 261622

The Pet Factor

Cats are natural sunbathers and for many this causes no problems. However, cats with white ears and noses are prone to sunburn and this can lead to cancerous changes in their skin over time.



High factor sun block applied to ears and nose areas can help to minimise the risk. Use a waterproof, non-toxic sunscreen and reapply throughout the day. Try to keep your cat indoors between 10am and 3pm this is when the sun is hottest. Always provide a shady retreat. If you have any concerns about skin lesions on your pet please contact us on 01234 261622 and we will be happy to advise.



www.scottveterinaryclinic.co.uk



Dental Care: Avoiding Nasty Nashers

The condition of your pets mouth can have a significant impact on their overall health and well being. 80% of cats and dogs over 3 years of age are affected by periodontal disease. Left untreated it can lead to severe dental disease ultimately requiring dental surgery and tooth extraction. In some cases severe periodontal disease can cause organ dysfunction.

What is periodontal Disease?

Caused by the bacteria in plaque it damages the structures that hold a tooth in place, affecting the gums and bone. It can cause pain and discomfort for your pets when they are eating. It's also the most common clinical condition affecting adult pets and is almost entirely preventable!

Home Dental Care

The most effective way to avoid periodontal disease is to brush your pets teeth, for the exact same reasons we brush our own. Controlling the bacteria in their mouth with daily brushing can really make a difference, especially when started from a young age. The good news is our team can help. Our excellent nursing team can offer advice on home dental care practices and techniques. They'll even provide a tooth brushing demonstration! There are a range of different products designed especially with your pets in mind and our nurses will advise on the best products available for your pets requirements.



Dental Treatment

Our vets routinely examine your pets mouth when they come in for vaccination and its often here that they'll note any changes. If dental treatment is recommended, you will be advised of the best course of action. In some cases, to descale and polish the teeth may be enough, followed by regular brushing at home to help avoid further deterioration however, it is not uncommon for the need to extract diseased teeth. A general anaesthetic is required, whether it be a descale and polish or extractions and your pets treatment will be tailored according to their requirements.

If you have any questions about dental health for your pet please ask one of our team, who will be happy to advise you. We can also provide leaflets and information sheets about dental care.

The benefits of neutering

Neutering your pet not only prevents unwanted pregnancy but there are many additional health benefits too.

Neutered pets are likely to live longer, healthier lives after being neutered. There is a significant reduction in females developing mammary (breast) cancer and makes prostate problems far less likely in males. Neutering eliminates the chance of uterine infections in females and testicular cancers in males.

Surgical neutering in cats dogs and rabbits:

Females are 'Spayed'. The most routine spay performed in veterinary practice is an Ovariohysterectomy (this is what we do here at Scott's). This involves surgical removal of the uterus and both ovaries under general anaesthetic. Although the approach varies slightly with species, all our routine spays are performed this way. Males are 'Castrated'. This involves surgical removal of the testicles under general anaesthetic. Castration can help reduce many social problems such as marking territory, roaming and some types of aggression. Depending on species, breed type, weight and sex we can offer this service from as young as 4 months. Please contact the surgery for further information on neutering and the recommended age of surgery for your pet.



Have your say

We welcome your feedback.

It is important to us that we hear your views and listen to your suggestions. You can feedback to us in the following ways:

- Email: admin@scottveterinaryclinic.co.uk
- Facebook: @ScottVets
- Online: www.scottveterinaryclinic.co.uk/client-feedback
- Phone: 01234 261622
- Or send a letter to our Practice Manager at Scott Veterinary Clinic, 405 Goldington Road, Bedford, MK41 0DS.

Thankyou, from the Scotts Team

Committed to providing professional and compassionate care