

So you've got a new puppy...What now?

Whether you have had a puppy before or not it's always good to keep up to date on any information available.

Vaccination

We highly recommend vaccinating your puppy. The diseases covered by vaccination are DISTEMPER, Our vet will discuss with you, the most appropriate schedule, for your puppy. This will depend on whether they have come to you before or after their first vaccination.

It's a good idea to keep your puppy away from public areas until after final vaccination is given.

We also recommend annual boosters for some of these diseases, for life.

Microchipping

Microchipping is now required by law in dogs and cats. More information can be found on www.dogandcatboard.com.au.

Microchips are placed by a Vet or authorised person, normally in the loose skin at the scruff of the neck. This can be done in an appointment slot – remember the law says that puppies and kittens must be microchipped by 12 weeks of age. It is important to remember to update any personal details that may change (e.g. Address, phone number) during your pet's lifetime.

Desexing

Mandatory desexing of puppies and kittens by 6 months of age came in to effect on 1st July 2018.

Desexing is also known as "spaying" for females and "castrating" for males.

It is believed that desexing can reduce aggression and dominant behaviour and also reduce the inclination to roam.

From a medical perspective, it eliminates diseases and cancers of the organs that have been removed and also eliminates the possibility of any unwanted litters.

Worming and Flea treatments

Here, at High Street Vets, we hold a range of flea and worm treatments, depending on your pet's needs. It's a great idea to find out from your pup's breeder what they have been given thus far.

Worms

We recommend worming with a good quality all wormer tablet monthly up until 6 months of age (make sure it includes heartworm as some of the all-wormers only include intestinal worms). This will also cover them for Heartworm if given monthly. Then they can continue that regime or opt for a heartworm injection at 6 months, which is then continued as yearly injection for Heartworm when your puppy has their yearly vaccination, and 3 monthly intestinal wormer tablet.

Fleas

Most pups will come in contact with fleas at some stage so preventative treatment is the best bet. We can advise you on the best option for your puppy.

Socialisation

Whilst we have to isolate unvaccinated puppies from public areas, it is still important to socialise them during this "sensitive period".

A safe way of doing this is to sign up to a Puppy Pre School class, or socialise with a pet that you are confident is up to date with vaccinations (either at your home or theirs, but not in a public area like a park or a beach.)

Puppy Pre School

We currently run a Puppy Pre School one evening a week, for a course of 4 weeks. This is a fantastic opportunity to socialise your pup in a safe environment, with a group of similarly aged puppies that are vaccinated. We cover basic training and tips. It is also an ideal opportunity to ask any questions you might have about your puppy... and remember there's no such thing as a silly question!

To book your place in Puppy Pre School, give us a call on 8536 8701.

Remember, we need to be the puppy's brain – they don't know that chewing a power cable is dangerous, or that chasing the cat might end up with a scratched eye! Or that the painkillers you have left on your bedside table for three years, aren't meant to be eaten by them... Some puppies are worse than others, but if left alone and they are bored, they can chew through a lot of dollars of damage, and maybe damage themselves as well.