



**THE KENNEL CLUB**  
*Making a difference for dogs*

## **Information Guide**

So you are thinking of  
working with dogs?



[www.thekennelclub.org.uk](http://www.thekennelclub.org.uk)

## So you are thinking of working with dogs?

Competition for jobs working with animals is high, although the work itself may be low paid and you may find yourself working very long hours. However, if you have determination, dedication, good communication skills and a sense of humour then you will be well on your way to succeeding in your chosen field.

### WORKING WITH ASSISTANCE DOGS

#### **Skills needed:**

- An affinity with, and understanding of dogs.
- A good standard of education.
- Strong interpersonal and communication skills
- Work/social experience with adults and children from various backgrounds.
- Plenty of initiative and the ability to work alone and within a team.
- Specialist skills such as sign language and lip speaking may be required.
- Full UK driving licence is essential for some posts.
- High level of fitness.



## LIST OF CONTACTS:

### Canine Partners

*Canine Partners is a charity providing very highly trained assistance dogs to severely physically disabled people keen to live independently in the community.*



Telephone (Monday-Friday,  
9am- 5pm) **08456 580 480**  
**[www.caninepartners.co.uk](http://www.caninepartners.co.uk)**

### Dogs for the Disabled

*Trains specially selected dogs to perform tasks which people with disabilities find difficult or impossible to perform themselves, and provide these people with companionship, independence and security.*



Telephone 01295 252 600 or email:  
**[info@dogsforthedisabled.org.uk](mailto:info@dogsforthedisabled.org.uk)**  
**[www.dogsforthedisabled.org](http://www.dogsforthedisabled.org)**

### Guide Dogs for the Blind Association

*Breeds and trains guide dogs for visually impaired people to help them lead more independent lives.*



Email **[guidedogs@guidedogs.org.uk](mailto:guidedogs@guidedogs.org.uk)**  
**[www.gdba.org.uk](http://www.gdba.org.uk)**

### Hearing Dogs for Deaf People

*Trains dogs to act as 'hearing' ears for deaf people, thus offering a practical means to greater independence.*



Telephone **01844 348 100**  
**[www.hearingdogs.org.uk](http://www.hearingdogs.org.uk)**

So you are thinking of working with dogs?

## WORKING AS A DOG TRAINER OR BEHAVIOURIST

### Skills needed:

- An affinity with, and understanding of dogs.
- Literate and numerate.
- Self motivated and outgoing with strong communication skills.
- Sense of humour and ability to motivate people.
- Ability and confidence to handle dogs.
- Able to use initiative and work alone as well as part of a team.
- Those who choose to be self-employed will need business skills.

### LIST OF CONTACTS:

*Kennel Club Accreditation Scheme for Instructors in Dog Training and Canine Behaviour*

*Scheme designed to give a personal, professional nationally recognised qualification for Dog Training Instructors. Recognised and verified by City & Guilds, the scheme is flexible in its modular format to cover all canine disciplines. The qualification is for all levels of instructors in dog training or canine behaviour, advisors and those involved in puppy/dog socialisation; rehabilitation; dog walkers/sitters; rescue/rehoming etc.*



**THE KENNEL CLUB  
ACCREDITATION SCHEME**

**FOR INSTRUCTORS IN  
DOG TRAINING & CANINE BEHAVIOUR**



Telephone **01296 318540** ext **305**  
[www.kcai.org.uk](http://www.kcai.org.uk)

### British Institute of Professional Dog Trainers



Telephone **01908 526 856**  
[www.bipdt.org.uk](http://www.bipdt.org.uk)



Telephone **01386 751 151**  
[www.apbc.org.uk](http://www.apbc.org.uk)

### Association of Pet Dog Trainers



Telephone **01285 810 811**  
[www.apdt.co.uk](http://www.apdt.co.uk)

### Association of Pet Behaviour Counsellors



Telephone **01386 751 151**  
[www.apbc.org.uk](http://www.apbc.org.uk)



So you are thinking of working with dogs?

## **KENNEL CLUB INSURANCE FOR DOG TRAINING INSTRUCTORS**

The Kennel Club offers an Insurance scheme specially designed to meet the unique needs of Dog Training Instructors. Whether you train on a one-to-one or class basis, the Kennel Club insurance for Dog Training Instructors has been designed so that YOU can tailor the cover to your personal training needs.

Cover can start when YOU want it to and is available for those training in the following disciplines:

- Agility
- Flyball
- Gundog Training
- Heelwork to Music
- Obedience
- Ringcraft



Because it is from the Kennel Club, the policy truly reflects the needs of dog training instructors and training clubs – expertise that other policies and insurance companies might find hard to match.

Likewise, public liability insurance is also essential for dog training instructors.

However it's not just public liability cover that you need – consider your members or trainees/handlers and your employees or volunteers. And don't forget the importance of cover for professional indemnity, property and cups and trophies.

## WORKING IN KENNELS

### Skills needed:

- Lots of stamina and common sense.
- A genuine interest in dogs and their welfare.
- Confidence in handling dogs.
- An ability to follow written and oral instructions.
- Strong customer service skills.
- A responsible attitude towards hygiene.
- Ability to work as a member of a team.

### LIST OF CONTACTS:

#### Kennel and Cattery Management



Telephone **01293 871 201**  
[www.kennelandcattery.com](http://www.kennelandcattery.com)



So you are thinking of working with dogs?

### **Battersea Dogs and Cats Home**

*Since 1860, rehoming service for stray/unwanted dogs.*



Telephone **020 7622 3626**  
[www.battersea.org.uk](http://www.battersea.org.uk)

### **Dogs Trust**

*Maintains rescue centres for lost and unwanted dogs.  
The charity has a non-destruction policy.*



Telephone **020 7837 0006**  
[www.dogstrust.org.uk](http://www.dogstrust.org.uk)

### **Wood Green Animal Shelter**

*Offers re-homing service for all types of pet.*



Telephone **0844 248 8181**  
[www.woodgreen.org.uk](http://www.woodgreen.org.uk)





## WORKING AS A DOG GROOMER

### Skills needed:

- Should be manually dextrous with good hand to eye co-ordination.
- Must have a good eye for detail and an artistic flair is an advantage.
- Good customer service skills.
- A neat and tidy appearance.
- Must be able to handle and control all types of dogs.
- Patience and confidence to cope with the individual temperament of each dog.
- Self-motivated.
- Those who choose to be self-employed will need business skills.

### LIST OF CONTACTS:

#### Groomers Association



Telephone 01234 273 933

#### Pet Care Trust

*Progressive and pro-active, the Pet Care Trust works continuously to improve the standards of pet keeping by promoting responsible pet ownership. The Pet Care Trust also raises awareness of the benefits of keeping pets through an ongoing and extensive information programme.*



Telephone **01234 273 933**  
**[www.petcare.org.uk](http://www.petcare.org.uk)**

So you are thinking of working with dogs?

### WORKING AS A DOG WARDEN

#### Skills needed:

- A good standard of education.
- Previous experience with dogs is an advantage.
- Good public relations skills.
- Experience of law enforcement if possible.
- An understanding of the laws affecting dogs and dog owners.
- Presentation or teaching skills.
- Good written skills for record keeping and report writing.
- Must hold a full UK driving licence.
- Must be prepared to work weekends/nights.

#### LIST OF CONTACTS:

##### National Dog Wardens Association (NDWA)



[www.ndwa.co.uk](http://www.ndwa.co.uk)



## **WORKING AS A ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS (RSPCA) INSPECTOR**

### **Skills needed:**

- Must be determined and committed to the job.
- Must be physically fit and able to swim 50 metres fully clothed.
- Must hold a full UK driving licence.
- Relevant work experience and National Vocational Qualifications are viewed favourably.
- Must be able to work under considerable pressure.

### **LIST OF CONTACTS:**

#### **Scottish Society for the Protection of Cruelty to Animals (SSPCA)**

*Its primary aims are to prevent cruelty and promote kindness to animals.*



Telephone **03000 999 999**  
[www.scottishspca.org](http://www.scottishspca.org)

# So you are thinking of working with dogs?

## WORKING AS A VETERINARY NURSE

### Skills needed:

- Must have commitment and be prepared to work hard.
- Must be able to work as part of a team.
- Must have excellent communication skills, particularly when dealing with clients who may be distressed.
- Must not be nauseated or disturbed by the sight of blood.
- Must be very confident in handling animals.

### LIST OF CONTACTS:

#### British Veterinary Nursing Association (BVNA)

*Its primary aims are to prevent cruelty and promote kindness to animals.*



Telephone **01279 408 644**  
[www.bvna.org.uk](http://www.bvna.org.uk)



## WORKING AS A VETERINARY SURGEON

### Skills needed:

- Must have a very high standard of education.
- Must possess excellent communication skills to deal with clients and colleagues.
- Must possess some degree of business acumen.
- Should hold a full UK driving licence.

### LIST OF CONTACTS:

#### British Veterinary Association (BVA)



Telephone **020 7636 6541**  
[www.bva.org.uk](http://www.bva.org.uk)

#### British Small Animal Veterinary Association (BSAVA)

*Informs its members of developments in all areas of small animal veterinary medicine.*



Telephone **01452 726 700**  
[www.bsava.com](http://www.bsava.com)

#### Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons (RCVS)

*The professional controlling body for veterinary surgeons.*



Telephone **020 7222 2001**  
[www.rcvs.org.uk](http://www.rcvs.org.uk)

#### British Association of Homeopathic Veterinary Surgeons



Telephone **01367 718 115**  
[www.bahvs.com](http://www.bahvs.com)



The UK's largest lost and found database for microchipped pets

**By law, in England, from April 2016 it will be compulsory for all dogs to be microchipped and registered on a government approved database.**

If your dog is already chipped then great, you just need to make sure your contact details are up to date.

**Petlog is fully compliant with new regulations**

To check your details or to find a Petlog implanter in your area visit [www.petlog.org.uk](http://www.petlog.org.uk)



The aim of this guide is to give you some suggestions and general advice. The guide is not intended to be a replacement for professional careers advice. Detailed job descriptions, and information on the qualifications and training required, can be obtained from the organisations listed.



**THE KENNEL CLUB**

1-5 Clarges Street, Piccadilly, London W1J 8AB  
Telephone 01296 318540

**[www.thekennelclub.org.uk](http://www.thekennelclub.org.uk)**

Join the conversation:

**twitter**@kclovesdogs **facebook**.com/kclovesdogs



**THE KENNEL CLUB**

*Making a difference for dogs*

The Kennel Club works to protect and promote the health and welfare of all dogs in the UK. We want happy, healthy dogs living long lives with responsible owners. All profits from the organisation go straight into funding the many programmes run in the best interest of dogs and dog owners and to support the Kennel Club Charitable Trust to re-invest into a wide variety of welfare and health programmes.

Anyone can register their dog with the Kennel Club. By registering you will demonstrate your commitment to your dog's well-being and to the health and welfare of all dogs. You can register online today at [www.thekennelclub.org.uk/dogregistration](http://www.thekennelclub.org.uk/dogregistration).

Whatever your dog's needs, the Kennel Club is here to help and support you.

Find out more by contacting us on **01296 318540**, or visit our website at [www.thekennelclub.org.uk](http://www.thekennelclub.org.uk) to find out more about the wonderful world of dogs.

**Additional guides on a wide range of subjects are also available to download from our website at [www.thekennelclub.org.uk](http://www.thekennelclub.org.uk):**

- Asthma and your dog
- Breeding for health
- Breeding from your dogs
- Choosing and bringing home the right dog for you
- Common canine poisons in the house and garden
- DNA profiling and parentage analysis services
- Do you know dog law?
- Do you know how to look after your dog in its senior years?
- How to get involved in fun activities and competitions with your dog
- How to get started with dog training
- How to register your dog with the Kennel Club
- Introducing dogs to children or babies
- Kennel Club endorsements
- Moving house with your dog
- Pet Insurance Guide for dog owners
- Puppy Socialisation
- Road travel with your dog
- Thinking of showing your dog in the UK?
- Travelling abroad with your dog
- Why should I Microchip my pet?