



# Admissions processes and entry requirements for UK veterinary schools

For applications in 2023

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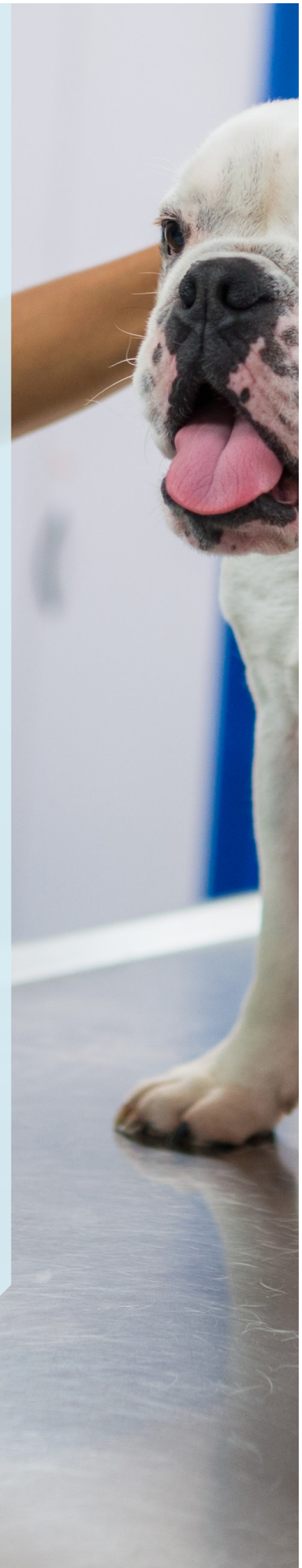
# Welcome!


Embarking on a veterinary course can seem a daunting prospect. Courses are long, and potential vets are often told how difficult it is to secure a place. However, although intensive, training to be a veterinary surgeon can be an immensely enjoyable and rewarding experience, and can lead to a wide variety of challenging and fascinating careers. Also, your chances of gaining a place on a veterinary course may be better than you think. Each year, approximately 2400 people apply for 1200 places to study veterinary science so applicants have around a 50% chance of gaining a place.

Of course, all veterinary schools teach you the same core of information, understanding and skills required to become a vet, but their courses do differ in various ways. Although your main intention is simply to gain entry to a course and qualify as a vet, it is also important that you choose the right course for you. The aim of this guide is to provide you with the information you need to make that choice.

The Veterinary Schools Council represents vet schools in the UK, Ireland and Netherlands, and promotes discussion and cooperation between them. It believes that providing clear, balanced information, presented by each vet school on an equal footing, is the key to ensuring that as many students as possible find a place on the best course for them.

This document has been produced by the council's Admissions Committee and is intended to fill in some gaps in the information available to you. You should, for example, be cautious about what you read on student chatrooms – these are often dominated by particular contributors, and the information provided can be inaccurate. Another factor to consider is that if you ask qualified vets for advice, they will each have experienced the course at just one vet school, and their knowledge of even that will necessarily be some years out of date. Also, entirely understandably, vets tend to promote the vet school where they trained as the best! As a result, it can be difficult for potential applicants to get a full, balanced idea





of what the different vet schools offer.

We believe this document provides a degree of balance. It gives you technical information about the selection process at different vet schools, and allows them an equal chance to explain why they think their course may be the best for you, with each section written by that school's head of admissions. Obviously, each will be trying to make their course sound better than the others, but this is no surprise: we are competing to attract applicants from a pool of excellent candidates. Also, all UK veterinary schools are very good!

Please note that while we have attempted to make this document as comprehensive as possible, you should always check the details of courses and admissions processes on individual veterinary schools' websites. It is these which you should consider as being the definitive resource. Our intention is to update this document annually, and publish a new version every summer.

And a final word about perspective. Gaining a place on a UK veterinary course is competitive, but you should not assume this means you will be unsuccessful. You can apply to four vet schools, but remember that you only 'need' one offer. We worry that many good candidates do not apply because they overestimate the challenges involved or, more likely, underestimate their own abilities.

What we do know is that if you don't apply, you will definitely not get a place. Be positive, read this document, peruse our websites, email us with queries, and then apply!

**David Bainbridge (University of Cambridge)**  
Chair, Veterinary Schools Council Admissions Committee

# Common policies agreed by Veterinary Schools Council

## Information for prospective applicants

An important role of the veterinary profession is to support the health and welfare of all animals in their care – and essential parts of these include the following.

1. All veterinary students must be trained in the husbandry and medicine of mammals and birds raised for food, as well as acquiring an understanding of the structure and processes of relevant parts of the food industry. Applicants for UK veterinary courses should be aware that participation in these elements of the veterinary course is compulsory at all UK veterinary schools. For example, the RCVS Standards and Guidance for the Accreditation of Veterinary Degree Programmes stipulate that the core veterinary curriculum must include visits to abattoirs.
2. Animals are used in biomedical research, and in the UK this is regulated by the Home Office. All veterinary students must have an understanding of the framework under which scientific procedures are carried out on animals, and have familiarity with the husbandry and medicine of species commonly used in research. However, there is currently no requirement to engage in practical work in a setting where such procedures are taking place
3. Euthanasia is an essential part of ensuring the welfare of the animals in the care of veterinary surgeons. Because of this, it is compulsory for all veterinary students to understand the principles and practice of methods of euthanasia, and as part of the course all students will be present in settings where euthanasia is taking place, and may be asked to assist.

You should be aware that while religious expression and ethical veganism are considered protected characteristics under the Equality Act, and legal exemptions will be taken into account, the Act does not provide a requirement to compromise competence standards in respect of any protected characteristic.

We do of course welcome debate about the ethical, economic and environmental dimensions of raising animals for scientific research or to produce food, but that does not remove the requirement for veterinary students to complete all elements of the course. All values and beliefs are respected at UK veterinary schools, and the schools continue to work with the regulator about how learning experiences can be developed in the future.

## Personal statements

All applications to UK veterinary schools must be made via UCAS, and the UCAS application process includes writing a personal statement. However, the vet schools are aware that the amount and quality of advice, and assistance applicants receive when writing their personal statement, varies greatly – and that this could potentially advantage or disadvantage certain applicants. Because of this, no UK vet school assesses the quality of the personal statement during their selection processes. Vet schools may of course ask questions about elements of the personal statement during their selection processes. In addition, some vet schools have partially or completely replaced the use of the personal statement by introducing their own applicant questionnaires.

## Disability

Many potential applicants worry that a disability will prevent them from entering a veterinary medicine course, or qualifying as a vet. Although disabled UK veterinary students are at present required to take all compulsory elements of their veterinary course (including practical work with all major domestic species), our experience is that it is often possible to make reasonable adjustments so that disabled students are able to participate in veterinary courses to completion. Because of this, if you are disabled and are considering a veterinary career, we advise you to contact the vet schools to which you are thinking of applying, to discuss your options further.

## Contextual data

All UK veterinary schools take account of contextual data when making their admissions decisions. These data allow us to assess candidates' applications in the light of the educational opportunities they have had. The vet schools achieve this by using nationally accepted databases of past school attainment, various measures of previous participation in higher education, and other metrics of prior educational opportunity. All vet schools are committed to widening access to veterinary education.

## School examination systems

In this guide, the UK veterinary schools have listed their requirements for the examination systems for which UK applicants most often study. However, all UK vet schools are experienced in considering a wide variety of public examination systems from around the world. If you are studying under one of these 'non-UK' systems, please see each veterinary school's website for further details about their entry requirements.

## Widening participation

### Under-represented groups

UK veterinary schools seek to increase the participation of under-represented groups in veterinary education and the veterinary profession – in particular, Black, Asian and minority ethnic candidates. These groups are under-represented in the profession because (1) These students are more likely to have experienced educational disadvantage – see below – or (2) these students are less likely to have considered, or been encouraged to consider, veterinary medicine as a career. VSC is keen for all potential applicants to consider a veterinary career, be that in practice or in the wide variety of scientific and administrative fields available to veterinary graduates. Applicants should be aware that only a small number of students currently entering UK vet schools have what might be considered a ‘veterinary background’, such as a close family member who is a vet. Selection for our courses is in no way based on ‘who you know’, so you should not be put off applying because you do not know a vet.

### Disadvantaged applicants

VSC is committed to promoting applications by candidates who have experienced educational or financial disadvantage. UK veterinary schools strongly encourage such students to apply and will consider their circumstances during the selection process. In addition, each higher education institution in the UK has agreed with the Office for Students an ‘Access and Participation Plan’, which details how it promotes equality of opportunity – available at [www.officeforstudents.org.uk/advice-and-guidance](http://www.officeforstudents.org.uk/advice-and-guidance).

### How veterinary schools widen participation in their courses and the profession

It is important that access to veterinary training is available to as many people as possible, and the following table is a summary of how the UK veterinary schools promote and support applications from candidates who come from disadvantaged and under-represented groups. Please be aware that this table is just a brief summary and more detail is available on individual veterinary school and university websites.

The activities, funding and special arrangements listed on the next page are available to applicants whose circumstances indicate they are from a disadvantaged or under-represented group. This is determined according to a range of parameters, such as nationally-recognised postcode-based databases of educational disadvantage or low participation in higher education, eligibility for free schools meals, declared household income, or a history of having been in care.

Recruitment	Bristol	Cambridge	Edinburgh	Glasgow	Harper & Keele	Liverpool	Nottingham	Royal Veterinary College	Surrey
Dedicated recruitment and information events	●	●	●	●	●	●		●	●
"Ringfenced" places on other recruitment and information events	●	●	●	●		●			
Additional support - e.g. subject 'masterclasses'	●	●	●	●			●	●	●
Funding for travel to events	●	●	●		1●	n/a		<sup>1</sup> ●	●
Bursaries to attend any events for which there is a fee	●	●			n/a <sup>2</sup>	n/a <sup>2</sup>		●	n/a <sup>2</sup>

### Admissions Process

Funding for travel to attend interviews	●	<sup>3</sup> ●	1●		1●				●
Contextual information considered throughout the admissions process	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Reduced requirements for work experience	n/a <sup>4</sup>	n/a <sup>4</sup>	n/a <sup>4</sup>	●	n/a <sup>4</sup>	●		<sup>5</sup> ●	●
Reduced conditional offer levels	●		●	●	●	●	●	●	<sup>6</sup> ●

### Once on the course

'Gateway' course lasting a full university year	●				●	●	●	●	
Shorter 'booster' courses, e.g. a few weeks in the summer before starting the main course		●		●					
Annual bursaries for students from low-income households	●	●	●		●		●	●	<sup>7</sup> ●
One-off bursaries for students from low-income households	●					●	●	●	●
Student Voice panels	●				●	●	●		

#### Notes (see numbers in table)

1. Funds available to support attendance of students that meet Widening Participation criteria
2. There are no events for which there is a fee.
3. Only applicants for the Gateway and Graduate programme are called to interview.
4. There are no minimum requirements for work experience.
5. No requirements for work experience for Gateway students.
6. If successful on the In2Surrey access scheme
7. Must also meet POLAR4 postcode criteria (rated 1, 2 or 3)



## Work experience

**Work experience prior to application to veterinary school has been a long standing pre-requisite for all UK universities. The requirements vary by school and are to ensure that applicants have an awareness of the breadth of the veterinary profession and key aspects of animal care as they might pertain to future careers.**

**Increasingly, the sector recognises that access to these workplace opportunities can be difficult, often come at financial cost and are impossible to quality assure.**

**The Veterinary Schools Council and its member organisations are committed to widening access, to diversity, equity and inclusion and is working to remove iniquitous barriers to entry to the profession. Although there is not yet a common approach to this amongst the schools, work is in train to create a more consistent and equitable framework. In the meantime, potential applicants should contact the individual universities, colleges or schools to whom they are applying to make themselves aware of the current requirements.**

Each veterinary school's requirements are listed under their entry in this guide, including whether they ask for clinical experience shadowing vets and/or experience in a non-clinical animal husbandry setting. You should also take note of the amount of work experience beyond which further experience confers little advantage in their admissions processes.

The suggested quantity and types of work experience vary slightly between the veterinary schools, but we have agreed the following guidelines as to what you should seek to gain from your experience. You are welcome to show this list to your work experience providers if you wish.

- The most important function of work experience is for you to decide whether you would enjoy working as a member of the veterinary profession. Do you like the working environment? Do you think you would find the technical, practical, scientific, ethical, emotional and financial challenges of veterinary life rewarding and enjoyable?
- Second, work experience is also something you can discuss in the written elements of your application, and about which you may be asked at interview.
- Rather than being a passive observer, we encourage you to take an active interest in the husbandry practices/clinical cases you see and the management/scientific principles which underlie them. You should try to be observant and thoughtful about what you see, certainly ask questions, and possibly do a little extra reading or research once the working day is over.
- The nature of work experience means that very often you will not be able to follow interesting clinical cases all the way from first consultation to clinical resolution. We are fully aware of this, so you should not be deterred from mentioning such cases in your application or interview.
- Communication is one of the most important aspects of life as a veterinary professional, and you should use your work experience as an opportunity to talk to

vets, nurses, receptionists, lab staff and others about their working life. There may also be situations in which you speak directly to clients, too, but you should of course restrict these conversations to tactful generalities, under the guidance of the staff with whom you are working.

- Although you are still only thinking about applying to enter the veterinary profession, you should aim to present yourself in as professional a manner as possible. In clinical settings you should dress in a smart but practical way (perhaps ask for guidance in advance), be courteous and respectful to all around you, behave sensibly, and offer help when it seems appropriate to do so.
- Although we recommend animal husbandry settings and first-opinion practice as ideal places to gain work experience, throughout your work experience do bear in mind that many vets work in referral practice, the charitable sector, management, industry, government, and university teaching and research. You should consider how vets' scientific, clinical and professional training might help them take those other career paths.

It is possible that you may find it difficult to obtain the work experience specified by the time you apply, either because local providers are unable to accommodate you, or because your decision to apply for Veterinary Medicine was made relatively late. If this is the case, we recommend that you contact the veterinary schools to which you are thinking of applying for advice.

The University of Nottingham has pioneered a [free online virtual work experience course](#) for aspiring vets to gain insight into the reality of life as a vet so that they can make an informed decision before embarking on a veterinary degree course.

## WP Vet Schools Network Resources

The Widening Participation Vet Schools Network (WPVSN) is formed of representatives from all UK vet schools and other veterinary organisations across the UK. We recognise that not all students applying to vet school have equal opportunities when it comes to accessing the information and opportunities needed to pursue a career in veterinary medicine. Together, we work to help provide this information and support those from the most under-represented backgrounds to pursue a degree and career in veterinary medicine and widen access to the veterinary profession.



All UK vet schools are committed to widening access and welcome applications from students with diverse backgrounds. Your application might benefit from additional consideration in the selection process or you could be admitted based on minimum entry requirements.

Our aim is to ensure everyone receives the appropriate support to successfully pursue a veterinary education and embark on a fulfilling career in veterinary medicine, wherever this may take them.

Here you will find a list of useful resources, organisations and funding opportunities that can help you pursue your future veterinary studies.

### Scholarships:

- UCAS WP information on Scholarships, grants and bursaries: <https://www.ucas.com/finance/scholarships-grants-and-bursaries/scholarships-grants-and-bursaries-widening-participation>
- IVC Evidensia – Diversity Scholarship: <https://www.thescholarshipclub.org.uk/ivc-evidensia-diversity-scholarship/>
- Grants and funding collected by the British Veterinary Ethnicity and Diversity Society (BVEDS): <https://padlet.com/bveds2016/omvz4t9nk4mid0y2>
- The Andrea Levy Scholarship: <https://www.ed.ac.uk/student-funding/undergraduate/uk-eu/access-awards/andrea-levy>
- Helena Kennedy Foundation bursary: <https://www.hkf.org.uk/hkf-awards/>

## Support and information:

- British Veterinary Ethnicity and Diversity Society (BVEDS): <https://bveds.com/>
- British Veterinary Association (BVA) - Applying to study veterinary medicine guide: <https://www.ed.ac.uk/vet/studying/undergraduate/outreach-and-schools-liaison/teacheradvice>
- My Vet Future (secondary pupils): <https://www.vetrecordjobs.com/myvetfuture/vetfuture-secondary-school/>
- Sharing experiences of life at vet school: <https://www.vetrecordjobs.com/myvetfuture/article/sharing-experiences-life-at-vet-school-may-yeen/?fbclid=IwAR1O2QMe7Xsdzh59SpoRVRqFTQmPb1cFu-tORcJWtc8-t81CZ7c0bfyO4t8>
- AVS Getting into vet school guide: <https://www.avsukireland.co.uk/getting-into-vet-school>
- Animal Aspirations: <https://www.animalaspirations.com/>
- Vets in Diversity Podcast:
  - Spotify: <https://open.spotify.com/show/5PJXgyA158BxX9Rh1KEvXG?si=34190fb4b8174b6c>
  - Apple: <https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/vets-in-diversity-podcast/id1606209157>
- Vet Team in a Box | HE Unboxed | Loughborough University (lboro.ac.uk): [www.liverpool.ac.uk/veterinary-science/engage-with-us/vet-team-in-a-box/](http://www.liverpool.ac.uk/veterinary-science/engage-with-us/vet-team-in-a-box/)

# Courses

Information about each of the Veterinary Schools Council UK member veterinary schools is listed in alphabetical order by university, with three pages for each school. Every entry includes the vet school's contact details, information about the course, widening participation information, numbers of applicants and places, work experience requirements, conditional offers and selection processes.

All information was provided by the vet schools' admissions offices themselves, and was correct at the time of collation. However, please be aware that there is much more information available on the vet schools' individual websites.



UNITED KINGDOM • CHINA • MALAYSIA



There are two members of the Veterinary Schools Council which are not located in the UK:



# University of Bristol

Bristol Vet School, Langford House,  
Langford, Bristol, BS40 5DU

[www.bristol.ac.uk/vet-school](http://www.bristol.ac.uk/vet-school)

[choosebristol-ug@bristol.ac.uk](mailto:choosebristol-ug@bristol.ac.uk)



## Why apply to this veterinary course?

Ranked in the world's top 20 universities for veterinary science (QS World University Rankings by Subject 2023) and widely accredited, Bristol Veterinary graduates are well equipped to pursue a range of careers within the Veterinary profession around the world. Dual campus teaching means that students experience the vibrant culture of Bristol's city Clifton campus, as well as the first-rate clinical facilities at its rural Langford campus, just a short journey from the city.

Teaching in the first three years occurs mainly on the Clifton campus although time is also spent on the Langford Campus. The Clifton campus is situated in the historic and leafy quarter of Bristol, an area characterised by Georgian architecture and the buzzing bars and restaurants of Whiteladies Road. Nine campus libraries are dotted around the Clifton Campus which is also home to the Students' Union, and the School of Anatomy where vet students carry out dissections. Teaching in years four and five is based on the Langford Campus. Within its tranquil countryside surrounds, the site boasts its own small animal hospital, a dairy/sheep farm, diagnostic laboratories, a commercial abattoir and farm and small animal practices. We partner with other organisations to ensure students have ample experience across a wide range of species, such as opportunities to work in equine ambulatory practice or hospitals, small animal primary care, the charity sector and with exotic species. Within our recently refreshed curriculum, students are hands-on with animals from year 1 and benefit from innovative teaching within our internationally acclaimed Clinical Skills Laboratory throughout the programme. Our evidenced based, innovative and interactive curriculum makes use of collaborative and case-based learning. You will work alongside experts in their field and develop curiosity, problem solving, teamwork and decision-making skills across a wide range of veterinary contexts. Intercalation is encouraged and up to 20% of our students choose to do this during their veterinary degree. Professional studies, animal management, evidence-based veterinary medicine, veterinary public health, and clinical and practical skills are embedded in every year of the programme. In the early years, the clinical relevance of subjects such as anatomy and physiology are highlighted.

From year 3, students learn about medicine and surgery in more depth, preparing them for their practical clinical training in final year. In the final year, students work alongside clinical staff and peers to provide veterinary care for a wide range of species. A uniquely tight-knit and supportive community, the Vet School's student society, Centaur, run a 'family system'

which pairs new students with ‘parents’ in later years of study who act as mentors and help them settle in. Our course is internationally accredited by the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons (RCVS), American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA), Veterinary Council of Ireland (VCI), European Association of Establishments for Veterinary Education (EAEVE), South African Veterinary Council (SAVC) and the Australasian Veterinary Boards Council (AVBC) meaning that our graduates have the option to practice as a vet in many countries across the World subject to local immigration and licensing rules. For more information: <https://www.bristol.ac.uk/vet-school/about/accreditation/>

## Widening participation

We have a contextual offer policy (ABB at A level to include AB in Chemistry and one of Biology, Physics or Maths) which is currently two grades lower than the standard offer and we also welcome applications from those with non-traditional backgrounds. We run a variety of schemes to assist those from applying local area schools including Pathways to Health Sciences, Venture into Vet, and the Bristol Scholars scheme. Our combined Health Sciences Gateway programme currently has five veterinary places (147 applicants for 2022 entry). Successful completion of this gateway year allows automatic progression onto the five-year BVSc programme.

## The application

### In numbers

- 170** The target intake for 2022, including graduates and international applicants (no maximum number for either)
- 9** The number of UK/EU applicants per place in 2022 (1,489 applicants in 2021, 118 students starting course in 2022)
- 11** The number of non-UK/EU applicants per place in 2022 (254 applicants in 2021, 34 students starting course in 2022)

### Work experience

Applicants may find vocational experience useful in deciding whether they want to apply for a veterinary medicine course. However, we have no work experience requirement as part of our admissions criteria, instead we provide applicants with guidance to support them through the application process and to help them to determine whether the course and profession are right for them. Full guidance is available on our webpages.

## Tests and questionnaires before interview

Applicants to our five-year programme who fulfil the minimum academic entry requirements will be sent a supplementary assessment questionnaire to complete. The questionnaire enables evaluation of the applicant's personal and professional attributes and awareness relating to the study of veterinary science. Applicants for the standard route are not typically interviewed although we reserve the right to interview any applicant. All applicants meeting our academic requirements are ranked based on their responses to questions within the questionnaire and offers made to the highest-ranking applicants. Applicants for the Gateway to Veterinary Sciences programme are required to sit the UCAT but are not required to complete the supplementary assessment questionnaire; eligible applicants are selected for interview.

## Weighting of criteria used for calling for interview

No interviews for the standard route.

## Interview

No interviews were held in 2022 for entry onto the standard 5-year programme in 2023. Selection was paper based only: 100% on personal and professional attributes. For Gateway applicants, interviews consisted of Multiple Mini Interviews (MMIs). For 2022 entry, we interviewed 23 Gateway applicants for five places. Gateway offers were made based entirely on interview score.

## Typical conditional offers

**A level:** AAA including Chemistry and one of Biology, Physics or Maths. A level contextual offer: ABB to include AB in Chemistry and one of Biology, Physics or Maths.

**IB:** 36 points overall with 18 at Higher Level, including 6, 6 at Higher Level in Chemistry and one of Biology, Physics or Maths

**SQA Higher and Advanced Higher:** AA in Chemistry and one of Biology, Physics or Mathematics, and Standard Higher: AAAAB

## Graduate entry

Our four-year [BVSc Veterinary Science: Accelerated Graduate Entry](#) programme is aimed at students with an upper second class (2:1) degree in a science subject. This is open to both UK and international applicants and is taught entirely on the Langford Campus. Our target intake for this programme in 2023 is 55.



# University of Cambridge

Department of Veterinary Medicine,  
Madingley Road, Cambridge CB3 0ES

[www.vet.cam.ac.uk](http://www.vet.cam.ac.uk)

[admissions.enquiries@vet.cam.ac.uk](mailto:admissions.enquiries@vet.cam.ac.uk)



## Why apply to this veterinary course?

Cambridge is an exciting and welcoming place to train to be a vet, and we provide our graduates with the best clinical and scientific springboard to thrive in the enormous range of careers available to them.

A major focus of our course is its practical emphasis. From their first week our students have hands-on experience in handling and management of all the major domestic species, as well as integrated sessions in clinical examination, diagnostic imaging and 'exotic' species. Every year your practical skills are progressively honed with our in-house animals and using our superb facilities, and we were the first vet school to introduce an all-clinics final year – the perfect preparation for entering any veterinary career.

Our veterinary students are also immersed in the scientific environment of the world's premier science university. You will be taught by world experts, and gain the best training available in the scientific basis of clinical practice. This is the key to being a successful, adaptable and fulfilled clinician. In particular, all our non-graduate-entry students complete a full Cambridge BA science degree in their third year in a subject of their choice (for example in animal disease, conservation biology, management studies), which is often invaluable to their future career progression and flexibility.

The 'Cambridge experience' is unique. All our students are members of a college: a small community of perhaps 120 students each year taking a wide range of subjects. Vet students live in their college for at least the first three, and sometimes all, years of their course, and the college often becomes their major social hub. It also provides superb sporting, recreation and academic facilities, as well as unmatched pastoral, academic and financial support. Partly because of this, Cambridge has one of the lowest 'drop-out rates' of any UK university.

At Cambridge you are very much treated as an individual: we take 70-or-so students each year so we soon get to know who everyone is. You receive continual individualised support and advice, including Cambridge's unique provision of weekly small-group (two–four students) teaching. This is an involving and rewarding opportunity to pursue your interests. Later, our small class size becomes even more valuable: our clinical rotation groups are tiny, which ensures a high caseload, so more experience and confidence by the time you qualify.

Finally, Cambridge is a beautiful and enjoyable place to spend your university years, whether

you're shopping in the city's medieval streets or dodging cattle on an idyllic riverside walk. And once you have a bicycle, travel costs are zero. Our clinical school is only ten minutes' cycle from the city centre – closer than any other, so you have speedy access to all the city has to offer throughout your time here.

And remember, our admissions process focuses on aptitude for science, so if you are doing well in science/ maths subjects at school, you may find we are the vet school at which you are most likely to secure a place.

## Widening participation

We are committed to widening participation. During the admissions process we have access to a large amount of contextual information about your school's previous performance and its support for pupils aiming at university, and there are several opportunities for you to inform us of any educational disadvantage you may have faced. Once here, our financial support is extremely generous. UK students from low-income households receive thousands of pounds each year from the Cambridge Bursary Scheme, as well as having access to a wide variety of hardship funds. All students can apply for funding, often generous, for travel, sport and music, and these funds can be invaluable for veterinary students, whose ability to do paid work during university vacations is limited by the need to conduct extra-mural studies, whichever vet school they attend.

## The application

### In numbers

**75** The target number of places on the main (non-Gateway) veterinary course for 2020/21, including five graduates and no min. or max. number of non-UK students

**5.2** The number of UK applicants per place in 2021 (314 applicants in 2020, 60 students starting course in 2022)

**12.7** The number of non-UK applicants per place in 2021 (89 applicants in 2021, 7 students starting course in 2022)

### Work experience

We have no minimum requirement, but we recommend that applicants gain 10 days' clinical work experience observing veterinary surgeons at work. Any amount above this confers no advantage. At interview we may discuss cases you have seen, and in doing so are looking for how observant, questioning and interactive you are.

### Tests and questionnaires before interview

Applicants should be entered for the university's Admissions Assessment, which provides a measure of your school science and maths attainment. This test, taken in early November in an exam centre (probably your school) provides a measure of your school science and maths attainment. See: [www.undergraduate.study.cam.ac.uk/applying/admission-assessments](http://www.undergraduate.study.cam.ac.uk/applying/admission-assessments).

Applicants will also be asked to complete the university's online 'My Cambridge Application' questionnaire, although this asks for fairly generic (not veterinary-specific) information, such as more details about the courses you are studying at school, and whether you were able to take all the options you wished.

## Weighting of criteria used for calling for interview

100% academic performance, especially in science/maths, especially in the last two years of school, but also at GCSE (or equivalent) and in the admissions assessment (see above).

## Interview

75–80% of applicants are interviewed. This is often two 25-minute interviews with particular focus on aptitude in science and maths subjects being taken at school, but also discussion of reading and interests, as well as applicants' work experience.

## Weighting of offers made after interview

60% on academic performance, 25% on interview performance relating to science and maths, 10% on interview performance relating to work experience or any research into veterinary careers, 5% other.

## Typical conditional offers

**A level:** A\*AA. Applicants should be taking Chemistry and one, preferably two, of Biology, Maths and Physics. Further Maths may also be counted – please contact the admissions office of the college to which you are considering applying.

**IB:** a total of 40–42, and 7,7,6 in higher-level or science subjects.

**SQA Advanced Higher:** A1A2A2 in Advanced Higher science/maths subjects. If you were only able to take two advanced higher science/maths subjects, please contact us.

## Graduate entry

We welcome applications from graduate students, and our graduate entry course lasts five years, omitting the third year. Requirements usually include a good Honours degree (2:1 or above; science subjects are desirable), and passes in at least two science/maths A levels. Our numbers of graduate students are quite flexible and can be increased if we receive a strong field of applicants. Graduate applicants should apply to particular Cambridge colleges. See our website for details.

# University of Edinburgh

## Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies

Roslin, Midlothian, EH25 9RG

[www.ed.ac.uk/vet](http://www.ed.ac.uk/vet)

[vetug@ed.ac.uk](mailto:vetug@ed.ac.uk)



## Why apply to this veterinary course?

At The Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies we offer an integrated programme where you will be taught about large animals, small companion animals, exotics and wildlife. This allows you to broaden your understanding of different species, increases your career prospects and allows you the flexibility to specialise at a later stage. You will be exposed to a wide range of stimulating teaching and learning methods designed to equip you with the confidence and skills for a fulfilling career in veterinary medicine. You will be taught by some of the UK's most prominent veterinary scientists in an environment of cutting-edge veterinary research. Not only will you be studying in a vibrant and cosmopolitan city, you will also benefit from a state of the art, purpose-built campus located in the area with the largest concentration of animal science expertise in Europe. We're consistently ranked among the top veterinary schools in the world. We are 1st in the UK in the Guardian University Guide, 1st in the world in the Shanghai Rankings Global Ranking of Academic Subjects, and 6th in QS World University Rankings by Subject (2022).

Studying veterinary medicine at Edinburgh will give you many transferable skills such as effective communication, team building and an understanding of business management. Veterinary training also provides an outstanding background for those who wish to pursue a career in biomedical research, including both veterinary and human medicine. By pursuing your studies at the University of Edinburgh you will gain a qualification that is widely and internationally accredited allowing you to practise veterinary medicine across the globe. Clinical and professional skills are taught from the earliest stages and the programme also includes Extra-Mural Studies (EMS). This is a core part of our programme and provides unrivalled opportunities to gain real-life work experience while being a student. We have some exciting national and international EMS partnerships available to our students, so in addition to spending time in our on-site clinical hospitals there are many opportunities to gain a range of experiences.

You will benefit from a very close-knit community of students and a dedicated student support team that take a personal interest in your well-being and success. You will be assigned a school house and a personal tutor who will support you throughout your studies, providing advice and a route to pastoral care. First year students also benefit from peer

assisted learning models with more senior students facilitating discussions with junior students. With almost 300 student societies to take part in, nightlife, countryside and festivals, Edinburgh is a big city with a small-town feel, which has something for everyone. You will live in one of the safest cities in Europe and one that is regularly voted as one of the most desirable places to live in the world. Edinburgh offers you an incredible opportunity to experience an exceptional education in a multi-cultural and thriving environment.

## Widening participation

At Edinburgh, we are committed to attracting the best students no matter what background they come from. We believe that diversity is educationally as well as socially desirable, enriching the educational experience for all. We want to ensure that applicants are not held back by barriers, and we therefore seek to attract a wide range of applicants from different social, cultural and educational backgrounds. This is known as contextual admissions, as it enables the university to consider students' achievements in context. Further information can be found at [www.ed.ac.uk/studying/undergraduate/applying/selection/contextual-admissions](http://www.ed.ac.uk/studying/undergraduate/applying/selection/contextual-admissions)

Applicants that qualify for a contextual admissions need to meet our minimum entry requirements rather than the standard entry requirements listed below. [www.ed.ac.uk/vet/studying/undergraduate/bvms/5-year-programme/academic-requirements](http://www.ed.ac.uk/vet/studying/undergraduate/bvms/5-year-programme/academic-requirements)

## The application

### In numbers

- 110** The target number of places on the main (non-Gateway) veterinary course for 2022/23, including 75 UK students and 35 non-UK students
- 9** The number of UK applicants per place in 2022 (976 applicants in 2022, 83 students starting course in 2022)
- 12** The number of non-UK applicants per place in 2022 (296 applicants in 2022, 43 students starting course in 2022)

### Work experience

We do not ask for specific types or a number of days or weeks for work experience as it depends, to some extent, on the opportunities available to individual candidates. However, the broader the experience the better, but not to the detriment of academic studies. Candidates should however gain both veterinary practice and animal work experience. More than two weeks of animal-related work experience with any one species confers no further advantage. Variety and demonstration of value gained is credited more highly than actual time spent.

Further details on our work experience requirements can be found here: <https://www.ed.ac.uk/vet/studying/undergraduate/bvms/5-year-programme/non-academic-requirements>

## Tests and questionnaires before interview

Applicants are required to submit a work experience questionnaire (WES), detailing work experience, when applying. All applicants (except North American students applying through VMCAS) must complete and submit a WES by 22 October.

[www.ed.ac.uk/vet/studying/undergraduate/admissions/wes-form](http://www.ed.ac.uk/vet/studying/undergraduate/admissions/wes-form)

## Weighting of criteria used for calling for interview

The breakdown is: 30% on academic performance, 20% on extracurricular (information derived from references and personal statement), 30% veterinary work experience, 20% animal-related work experience.

## Interview/ Assessment Day

Approximately 35-40% of applicants were invited to an Assessment Day in 2022–2023 for 2023 entry. Interviews were conducted in a multiple-mini interview (MMI) format which included 5 staffed stations and 2 unstaffed stations. Further information about our MMI interviews can be found here:

<https://www.ed.ac.uk/vet/studying/undergraduate/application-process/edvetinterviews>

## Weighting of offers made after interview

100% of the offer is based on interview performance.

## Scholarships/Bursaries

The University's Scholarships & Student Finance Office website contains information about scholarships, bursaries, student loans and tuition fee support for students, including links to funding body websites [www.ed.ac.uk/student-funding/undergraduate](http://www.ed.ac.uk/student-funding/undergraduate)

Information about the Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies International Scholarship is also available here: <https://www.ed.ac.uk/student-funding/undergraduate/international>

## Typical conditional offers

**A level:** AAA to include Chemistry, Biology and one other university-approved subject: <https://www.ed.ac.uk/vet/studying/undergraduate/bvms/5-year-programme/academic-requirements>

**IB:** an overall score of 38 points with 6,6,6 in Chemistry, Biology and one other higher-level subject.

**SQA Higher and Advanced Higher:** AAAAB Higher including Chemistry (A), Biology (A) and either Maths or Physics to be achieved by the end of S5. If Biology has not been studied in S5, it should be taken in S6 to Higher level. BB at Advanced Higher in Chemistry and another science subject.

**GCSEs and equivalent:** All candidates must have Physics at GCSE/National 5 or equivalent.

## 4-year Graduate Entry BVM&S

- 60** The target number of places on the 4-year Graduate Entry Programme for UK/Non-EU graduate applicants for 2022/23 entry.
- 9** The number of UK/Non-UK graduate applicants per place in 2022 (636 applicants in 2022, 62 students starting the programme in 2022).

## Typical conditional offers for 4-year Graduate Entry

An upper second class Honours degree (or equivalent) or an overall GPA of 3.4 (four point scale) in an appropriate biological or animal science subject which includes our published prerequisites subjects. Candidates must achieve high grades in Organic and Inorganic Chemistry, Biology/Zoology, Biochemistry, Mathematics/Statistics and Physics. Additionally, Genetics, Microbiology and Cell Biology are also highly recommended if these can be taken.

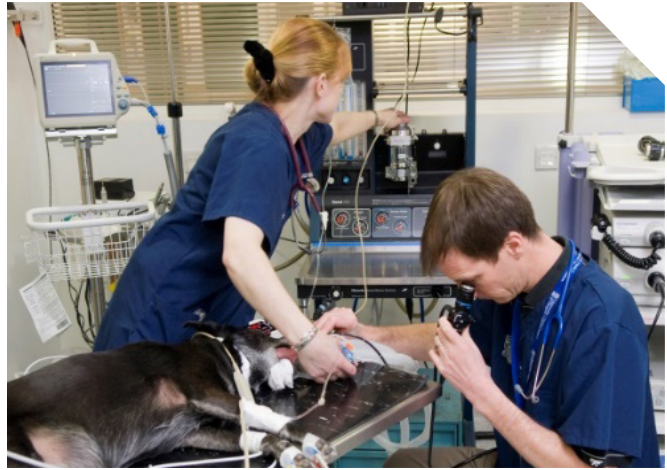
See: <https://www.ed.ac.uk/vet/studying/undergraduate/bvms/4-year-programme>

# University of Glasgow

College of Medical, Veterinary and Life Sciences, School of Biodiversity, One Health & Veterinary Medicine, 464 Bearsden Road, Glasgow G61 1QH

<https://www.gla.ac.uk/schools/bohvm/>

[vet-sch-admissions@glasgow.ac.uk](mailto:vet-sch-admissions@glasgow.ac.uk)



## Why apply to this veterinary course?

The University of Glasgow's School of Biodiversity, One Health and Veterinary Medicine is pre-eminent in teaching, research and clinical provision, and attracts students, researchers and clinicians from around the world. Founded in 1451, the University of Glasgow is the fourth oldest university in the English-speaking world. We are a world top 100 university (THE & QS World Rankings) and a member of the prestigious Russell Group of leading UK research universities. Veterinary Medicine at Glasgow is ranked 1st in the UK in The Times & Sunday Times Good University Guide (2023).

The veterinary school was founded in 1862 and is located on the 80-hectare Garscube campus at the northwest boundary of the city, four miles from the university's Gilmorehill campus. It has a 190-hectare commercial farm and research Centre at Cochno, 15 minutes from Garscube (five miles north).

The Bachelor of Veterinary Medicine and Surgery (BVMS) programme is based on integration of clinical and science subject areas from the first day on the programme and has a spiral course structure, meaning that you will revisit topics as you progress through the programme, each time with increasing clinical focus. In conjunction, there is a vertical theme of professional and clinical skills development to help you acquire the personal qualities and skills you will need in professional environments.

The programme is delivered over five years and is divided into three phases: Foundation phase (years 1 and 2), Clinical phase (years 3 and 4), Professional phase (year 5).

In your final year there are no lectures and the primary emphasis is on small-group involvement in clinical activity, covering the common species of domestic animals. During this time you will be involved in all aspects of work in our busy first opinion and referral hospitals and you will also gain first-hand experience in practices linked to the veterinary school.

Though this year of the programme is structured so that you will receive clinical experience in core clinical areas, there is also the opportunity to focus on a personal interest or explore the breadth of opportunities in the veterinary profession by choosing a 'selective' experience. Selectives may be used to gain experience in niche veterinary activities (such as aquaculture) or to gain in-depth clinical experience related to core subjects.



We have approved status from the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA), which enables you to have the option of practising in the USA or Canada following graduation, without the need for sitting lengthy and costly clinical proficiency examinations. A veterinary degree from the University of Glasgow will allow you to practise veterinary medicine.

We have a diverse student population and the support you will receive from both students and staff is something we are incredibly proud of. Our student support teams are here to help you to get the most out of your time at Glasgow, and to offer extra assistance if you need it. Team UofG is a strong community and we have staff and students within it who are committed to sharing knowledge, offering advice, and guiding you, whether you require support with your learning, welfare, career, or safety.

All students will have a dedicated academic mentor as well as a student buddy. The Peer Wellbeing Support service trains students to assist other students with issues like stress, making friends, relationship problems or academic worries. Joining the University of Glasgow veterinary programme is like joining a family and we are here to do what we can to support you.

## Widening participation

The University of Glasgow has always been, and always will be, interested in your potential rather than circumstance or background. If you have the potential, drive and ambition to succeed, we will do all we can to support you to realise your aspirations, overcome barriers and fulfil your promise. In particular, the REACH programme works with S4–S6 pupils in 95 schools across the west of Scotland who have an interest in and have the ability to study a professional degree in veterinary medicine and surgery. The REACH programme will ensure that you are well prepared for the transition to university. Participants gain an understanding of career pathways, experiences of university learning and teaching, support with every aspect of the application process and advice from staff and students on becoming a vet. All REACH programme applicants who meet the minimum entry requirements in S5 are guaranteed an interview, but this does not guarantee a place on the course.

## The application

### In numbers

- 137** The target number of places on the main (non-Gateway) veterinary course for 2022/23, including 72 UK students and 65 non-UK students
- 10** The number of UK applicants per place in 2022 (580 applicants in 2022, 58 students starting course in 2022)
- 8.7** The number of non-UK applicants per place in 2022 (729 applicants in 2022, 83 students starting course in 2022)

## Work experience

We do not require a specific number of weeks of work experience as we are aware that opportunities may differ between individual candidates. Applicants will however be expected to take opportunities available to them to gain relevant practical experience of livestock husbandry and handling animals. As a minimum this should include one week in a veterinary practice. Applicants are also advised to conduct their own online research into areas where they have been unable to gain practical experience. This can include completion of virtual work experience to boost their knowledge and understanding of the veterinary profession.

## Tests and questionnaires before interview

Applicants are required to submit a work experience form, detailing work experience, when applying. All applicants (except North American students applying through VMCAS) must complete and submit this by 29 October.

Students who meet the criteria for consideration for a place on the BVMS programme will be asked to complete an online ethical reasoning test (30-45minutes) prior to being called for interview.

## Interview

In 2022 interviews were conducted in person for UK-based applicants and a remote option via zoom was used for overseas applicants or for any applicant with exceptional circumstances. The interview consists of two parts each lasting approximately 15-minutes. In the first part of the interview applicants will be asked about their motivation to join the veterinary profession, their understanding of the profession, resilience, and how they manage a work life balance. The second part of the interview will concentrate on what an applicant has learned from their work experience, including observation skills, animal welfare, topical biomedical issues, communication skills and the ability to think on their feet.

## Weighting of offers made after interview

Each half of the interview is equally weighted.

## Typical conditional offers

**A level:** AAA, including Chemistry and Biology.

**IB:** an overall score of 38 with Chemistry at Higher Level 6, Biology at Higher Level 6 and Maths or Physics at Standard Level 5.

**SQA Higher and Advanced Higher:** AAAAB at Higher to include Chemistry, Biology and either Physics or Maths. BB at Advanced Higher in Chemistry and Biology.

# Harper & Keele Veterinary School

**Veterinary Education Centre, Harper  
Adams University, Edgmond, Newport  
TF10 8NB.**

**Harper and Keele Veterinary School, Keele  
University, Keele, Newcastle ST5 5BG.**

[www.harperkeelelevetschool.ac.uk](http://www.harperkeelelevetschool.ac.uk)  
[admissions@hkvets.ac.uk](mailto:admissions@hkvets.ac.uk)



## Why apply to this veterinary course?

A changing industry demands that the vets of tomorrow graduate with not only first-rate clinical skills, but a broader set of capabilities. They need to be good communicators with a sound understanding of business and the growing importance of data science and technology in their roles. Students will develop competence across these areas and gain confidence in being able to apply them during their studies accessing a wide variety of placements in clinical practice and related veterinary industries. Finally, vets must recognise the varied roles they must play, sometimes as leaders of clinical teams, others as business advisors on animal health, welfare, and productivity. These factors have combined to lead to the creation of a unique and agile model for a vet school that meets the challenges of today's veterinary industry. These are underpinned by the extensive resources and expertise across two universities.

Harper Adams has a strong pedigree in animal sciences, veterinary nursing and veterinary physiotherapy, with over 300 animals on site and several commercial farms, which vet students fully benefit from. Keele has a long history in the life sciences and human medicine and allied health sciences as well as a business school and increasing focus on data science and the digital society. Between them they have 186 years of heritage in the combined animal and human health education sector. Both institutions are well recognised for their strength in employability, student satisfaction and first-class teaching.

The Vet School has undertaken extensive strategic planning to ensure that students will be ideally prepared to meet their future challenges. This has identified focus themes that are of critical importance to the profession and animal health industries. A major feature is the focus on high quality primary care research and practice with a purpose-built small animal teaching hospital that students will spend extensive periods of time in. The rich and diverse caseload is being developed to align with and meet the needs of the curriculum and changing professional demands. Students will take leadership roles in the practice alongside colleagues from nursing and customer care.

Building on the strengths of research and innovation at the two universities, the School's theme of sustainable livestock health and welfare engages students in this work from the outset, highlighting the importance of vets in human and planetary health and biodiversity as well as animal health. The challenges surrounding vets and vet students are manifold and

can impact on their mental wellbeing and ability to thrive as professionals. Addressing this is at the heart of the wellbeing, professional performance and leadership strand at the School, which is led by a clinical psychologist. Improving research insights and practical applications in everything we do is leading to improving student ability to self-manage through stressful periods that are an inevitability of our work with the intention of enhancing graduates' professional lives.

Dynamic learning and embracing educational technology are key features of the course realising benefits through our student-centred curriculum - your education is our main concern. This creates opportunities to tailor learning from the outset - it is 'built in, not bolt-on'. Students are treated like professionals from day one with the development of lifelong learning from the outset.

Our partnership model ensures that there are diverse career role models embedded throughout the curriculum helping your preparation for work in a changing veterinary employment landscape. The whole approach to teaching and learning fosters a strong diversity of entrants to our school. Our Veterinary Clinical Teaching Fellows represent a key early investment to support these ambitions. Our first-year students are supported in their learning by a team of vets who lead the clinical tutorials that are designed to help them understand the clinical relevance of their early studies. The team are all current or recent veterinary practitioners bringing contemporary and 'real world' insights and perspectives. For the final two years, students are similarly mentored by a team of 'preceptors' responsible for guiding and coaching individual students through their studies and various placements, enabling a very personal and supportive experience at a critical time.

The curriculum has been designed to create a blend of types of teaching, moving away from a lecture-based approach to a balance of keynote lectures, practical sessions and clinical tutorials integrated around each topic. To allow students of all learning types the best opportunity to gain the most from the curriculum, a highly flexible self-directed element has been incorporated. This includes guided online active learning and flexible study days and weeks to allow each student to consolidate, catch-up or balance their work and life more effectively.

## Widening participation

We recognise that every student's journey to and through vet school, is different. We are committed to attracting students from a range of backgrounds and experiences. We recognise that applicants from backgrounds with historically low participation in veterinary programmes face several barriers to obtaining a place to study veterinary medicine. To reduce those barriers, we offer (i) a contextualised admissions process, resulting in a lowering of the grade requirement and (ii) a guaranteed interview to applicants who have completed our pre-application Future Vets programme. Further details can be found at: [How to apply | Harper & Keele Veterinary School](#) ([harperkeele.vetschool.ac.uk](http://harperkeele.vetschool.ac.uk))

# The application

## In numbers

**114** The target number of places on the main (non-Gateway) veterinary course for 2022/23.

**8** The number of UK per place in 2022 (784 applicants and 101 students started course in 2022).

## Work experience

We do not stipulate a set number of weeks of vocational experience. Far more importantly, we will expect you to be able to discuss in detail the insights you have gained during your vocational experience, and to understand the depth and roles of a vet and the work they do. This should be derived from time spent 'seeing practice' with vets in a clinical setting and from animal vocational experiences.

Not all candidates will have equal opportunities for access to vocational experiences. We appreciate it may be difficult for every student to amass many weeks of varied placements especially since this may also affect your academic studies.

## Tests and questionnaires before interview

Applicants are required to submit a vocational experience form, detailing work experience, and reflecting on how this experience has prepared them to study veterinary medicine and for a career as a veterinary surgeon. For further details see: [Veterinary Medicine and Surgery \(BVetMS\) | Harper & Keele Veterinary School \(harperkeelelevetschool.ac.uk\)](#)

## Weighting of criteria used for calling for interview

100% on vocational experience reflection score.

## Interview

52% of applicants were eligible for interview in 2020-21. For 2022 multiple-mini interviews were used with four stations at 7 minutes each, and an online situational judgement test. For 2023 further details will be published here: [How to apply | Harper & Keele Veterinary School \(harperkeelelevetschool.ac.uk\)](#)

## Weighting of offers made after interview

100% of the offer is based on interview score.

## Typical conditional offers

**A level:** AAB to include grade A in Biology or Chemistry, a second science subject at grade A (from Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Maths or Further Maths and Statistics) and a third subject of your choice at grade B (excluding General Studies, Critical Thinking and a second maths subject if used as a science above)

**IB:** an overall score of 34 points, including 6, 6, 6 at Higher Level, including Biology or Chemistry. A second science subject. A third subject of your choice. A minimum of 5, 5, 5 in Standard Levels.

**SQA Higher and Advanced Higher:** AA in Advanced Higher in Biology or Chemistry. AABBB minimum at Higher level, to include Biology and Chemistry. Minimum of AAAAA in National level 5, including biology and chemistry (or double science).

**GCSEs and equivalent:** All candidates must have a minimum of five GCSEs at grades at A/7 or above including: Science and Additional Science (or Biology and Chemistry). With at least a grade B/6 in: English Language, Mathematics and Physics (if taken as a separate GCSE).

# University of Liverpool

School of Veterinary Science, Thompson Yates Building, University of Liverpool, Liverpool L69 3GB

[www.liverpool.ac.uk/veterinary-science](http://www.liverpool.ac.uk/veterinary-science)

[vetadmit@liverpool.ac.uk](mailto:vetadmit@liverpool.ac.uk)



## Why apply to this veterinary course?

The University of Liverpool's veterinary school offers you the opportunity to study Veterinary Science at a world leading institution which has a long history of teaching Veterinary Science to students. We offer cutting edge, innovative veterinary education and build upon our teaching curriculum throughout the course, fed by our world class research and dedicated teaching and clinical facilities.

Our students get to enjoy a vibrant university experience for the first three years of the course, based at the central Liverpool campus; the 'friendliest city in the UK'. Years 4 and 5 are based at our Leahurst site, on the stunning Wirral, with North Wales on your doorstep. Liverpool vet school offers in-depth clinical and research-based training from world-renowned institutes and hugely motivated, dedicated teaching staff.

The university provides all of its own teaching across all five years of the course, using our two farms (covering beef and dairy cattle, pigs and sheep), our own teaching horses and our own teaching clinics. Across these sites our students have access to over 10,000 small animal cases a year, and over 5,000 equine and large animal cases. Our BVSc programme is accredited by the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons (RCVS), the European Association of Establishments for Veterinary Accreditation (EAEVE) and is a provisional member of the American Association of Veterinary Medical Colleges.

Traditional direct entry to our 5 year course is made via UCAS application (D100). For mature learners, we also offer two additional application routes. Pre-approved "access to higher education diplomas" and a 6 year programme, starting with [Foundation to Human and Animal Health Professions \(74JJ\)](#) which, if successful, leads directly into a guaranteed place on the Veterinary course.

## Widening participation

We run a variety of schemes to assist those applying from both the local area (e.g. Liverpool Scholars) and also for students participating on the Realising Opportunities scheme. These start from as early as Year 9 and include guaranteed work experience placements in our clinical settings. All programmes can be found from the following link: <https://www.liverpool.ac.uk/widening-participation/>

We consider contextual data and will make allowances during our admission process and make reduced offers to applicants who meet the criteria for the university's policy on contextual data. To find out if you are eligible, please submit the information required into the [Contextual Admissions Indicator Tool](#).

## The application

### In numbers

- 165** The target number of places on the main (non-foundation) veterinary course for 2023/24, with no minimum or maximum for graduates or non-UK students.
- 7** The number of UK applicants per place in 2021 (1149 applicants in 2021, 158 students starting course in 2022).
- 42** The number of non- UK applicants per place in 2021 (127 applicants in 2021, 3 students starting course in 2022).

### Work experience

To apply for the BVSc course, you will need some insight into the work of veterinary surgeons. The best way to gain this is to undertake some work experience with a veterinary surgeon and also with live animals in a commercial setting. At Liverpool, equal weighting is given to farm, equine and small animal species and so where possible we also advise applicants to obtain experience with at least two of small, equine or farm animals.

We do however recognise that not all candidates have equal opportunities for access to work experience and that many placements have been cancelled due to Covid-19 restrictions. We will therefore progress all applicants who have completed 15 days of any type of animal or veterinary-related work experience for applications made in 2023. If applicants are unable to secure a placement in clinical veterinary practice then they must complete the Virtual Work Experience and Exploring the Veterinary Profession MOOC, in addition to the three weeks (15 days) of animal related work experience.

### Tests and questionnaires before interview

Evidence of your work experience must be provided via our online questionnaire by 30th October, available at <https://www.liverpool.ac.uk/veterinary-science/study/how-to-apply/>.



## Weighting of criteria used for calling for interview

We offer a **guaranteed interview** for all applicants who meet, or are predicted to meet the academic criteria, and have undertaken the work experience listed above

## Interview

70–80% of applicants are interviewed. Interviews will be staggered over November – December 2023 and will take place via an online platform. Further details concerning the nature and timing of interviews will be provided in October 2023.

## Weighting of offers made after interview

The highest scores at interview are automatically given an offer (100% weighting). We will then further review applicants with borderline scores at interview and consider contextual data. We typically give offers to 40-50% of those we interview.

## Typical conditional offers

**A level:** AAA, including Biology and one other science-related subject (for example Chemistry, Maths, Geography, Physics, Psychology), plus a third subject (any subject considered excluding General Studies and Critical Thinking). If the second science is not Chemistry, AS level Chemistry is required at grade B.

**IB:** Overall 36; to include 6,6,6, in higher-level subjects, including Biology and one other science-related subject. If Chemistry is not taken at HL it MUST be taken at SL (grade 6 required).

**SQA Higher and Advanced Higher:** Five Highers at AAAAB including grades AA at Biology and Chemistry. BB at Advanced Higher in Chemistry and Biology.

**GCSE (or equivalent):** At least five GCSEs at grade 7 (A) including two science GCSEs (either as separate subjects or e.g. dual award science), with at least a grade 6 (B) in English (literature or language) and Mathematics.

## Graduate entry

Graduates complete the same five-year course, due to the integrated nature of the programme. Graduates are required to have an upper second class (2.1) degree, and A levels in Biology and Chemistry (grades BB for BSc graduates; AA for BA graduates).

# Royal Veterinary College

Royal College Street, London, NW1 0TU

[www.rvc.ac.uk](http://www.rvc.ac.uk)

[admissions@rvc.ac.uk](mailto:admissions@rvc.ac.uk)



## Why apply to this veterinary course?

The Bachelor of Veterinary Medicine (BVetMed) programme offers world-leading scientific and clinical training in veterinary medicine. This exciting course builds on our extensive veterinary history and takes a fresh approach in bringing together technological change, clinical and scientific progress, and stimulating teaching and learning methods.

The RVC is internationally accredited and if you graduate from our BVetMed degree, you will, subject to relevant immigration permissions and local licensing rules, be qualified to practise as a veterinary surgeon in the UK (RCVS), Ireland, Australia and New Zealand (AVBC), North America (AVMA) and many other countries around the world.

You will gain a thorough understanding of the science underpinning veterinary practice and research, and develop fundamental problem solving, communication and team-working skills. The RVC has the largest small animal hospital in Europe and busiest exotics practice in the UK. Through these and collaborative practices, you will gain the broadest and best possible practical experience.

This comprehensive programme will help you acquire an understanding of the basic biological principles of normal body function and disease, and the ability to distinguish the pathological from the normal, to prevent disease and safely manage the processes of animal production.

You will also explore opportunities to further veterinary knowledge through research and develop the expertise to diagnose and treat disease and alleviate suffering along with the professional skills you need to work and communicate effectively in practice.

In the first two years (first year for the Graduate programme), you will primarily be based at the Camden Campus studying basic veterinary sciences, acquiring introductory skills in handling and examining horses, farm animals and companion animals as well as developing your communication and team working skills. In your third, fourth and fifth year you will mainly be based at our Hawkshead Campus where you will acquire knowledge and practical skills in clinical science necessary for you to participate fully in clinical practice at the RVC, collaborative practices, and in private veterinary practice.

## Widening participation

Our long-running Veterinary Gateway course is aimed at students who might not otherwise meet our entry requirements due to social, economic or educational barriers. It integrates an additional year designed to equip you with the knowledge and skills you need to study veterinary medicine. We aim to place approximately 50 students on this course and typical requirements are five GCSEs at grade 4 (C) and CCC at A level or equivalent. You must meet our Route A or Route B requirements that can be found on our website.

We also give contextual offers on our standard BVetMed programme of ABB at A level or AB at Advanced Higher, to those who meet specific criteria (details on website).

## The application

### In numbers

- 160** The target number of places on the main (non-gateway) veterinary courses for 2022/23, including approximately 80 non-UK students
- 12** The number of UK applicants per place in 2022 (744 applicants in 2019, 60 students starting course in 2022)
- 5** The number of non-UK/non-EU applicants per place in 2019 (502 applicants in 2022, 102 students starting course in 2022)

### Work experience

You will need to have prior work experience in order to have developed animal handling skills and obtained an insight into the work of veterinary surgeons. Before you apply, you must have completed the minimum requirements:

- A total of 70 hours (e.g. 10 full days) of work experience (paid or voluntary) in one or more veterinary practices
- A total of 70 hours in one or more non-clinical working environments with live animals (excl. the home environment/pet ownership).

The above 140 hours must be obtained within the 18-month period directly preceding the application deadline. Earlier experience is welcome but will not count towards the 140 hour requirement.

We encourage you to think creatively about these environments and are interested to hear about any experiences that have helped to give you a sense of the veterinary role in the wider world. Examples of suitable non-clinical environments might include, but are not limited to: kennels, cattery, rural or city farm, stables, lambing, intensive livestock, animal research laboratory, wildlife park, zoo, etc. You do not have to have gained experience in all these areas.

## Tests and questionnaires before interview

Applicants are required to submit a supplementary questionnaire, detailing relevant work experience and answering three short essay questions, when applying. All applicant (except North American students applying through VMCAS, see our website for further details if applying via VMCAS) must complete the online supplementary questionnaire, they will be notified via email, on receipt of their application how to complete it and the deadline to do so.

## Weighting of criteria used for calling for interview

We initially filter by looking at the compulsory supplementary form to see if the applicant has submitted this on time and meets the specified work experience requirements. We then score each applicant based on academic performance and assessment of the supplementary questions. The applicant's overall score then considered against the rest of the cohort to determine if they meet the threshold score for interview. See our website for further information (note this is updated annually and the most recent version can be found on our [website](#)).

## Interview

Approximately 35–40% of our applicants are interviewed. Interviews are conducted in a multiple-mini interview format and an observed group task. Performance across both will give an overall score that we then use to make offers.

## Weighting of offers made after interview

Offers are made solely on the basis of interview performance. In the event multiple applicants score the same at interview and we need to further differentiate between applicants, pre-interview scores will be considered.

## Typical conditional offers

**A level:** AAA with Biology, Chemistry, and a third subject of your choice excluding General Studies.

**IB:** IB: 6,6,6 in Higher Level Biology, Chemistry and a third subject of your choice.

**SQA Advanced Higher:** AA in Biology and Chemistry.

# Graduate entry

## In numbers

- 105** The target number of places on the 4-year Graduate Entry Programme for UK/international graduate applicants
- 6** The number of UK/international graduate applicants per place in 2022 (676 applicants, 108 places)

## Typical conditional offers

Our four-year BVetMed Graduated Accelerated programme is aimed at students with an upper second class (2:1) honours degree in an appropriate biological science subject. This is open to both UK and international applicants: <https://www.rvc.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/bvetmed-graduate-accelerated> [www.rvc.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/bvetmed-graduate-accelerated](http://www.rvc.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/bvetmed-graduate-accelerated).

Graduates are also welcome to apply to the five-year course. Typical entry requirements for graduates is a 2:2 in an appropriate biological science subject. Graduates wishing to be considered for both the graduate entry and five year courses must submit applications to both courses.

# University of Nottingham

School of Veterinary Medicine and Science, College Road, Sutton Bonington, Loughborough, Leicestershire, LE12 5RD

[www.nottingham.ac.uk/vet](http://www.nottingham.ac.uk/vet)

[veterinary-enquiries@nottingham.ac.uk](mailto:veterinary-enquiries@nottingham.ac.uk)



## Why apply to this veterinary course?

We provide a fresh approach to veterinary education with a progressive and dynamic environment, which delivers an outstanding student experience. We offer three exciting and innovative degree courses which are designed with clinical outcomes in mind and based on excellence in teaching informed by scientific research.

The five-year course (D100) leads students from day one through a clinically integrated programme covering all of the common domestic, wildlife and exotic species. Our philosophy is that your education needs to be hands-on, bringing you into contact with animals and clinical case scenarios from the very beginning of your course. With this in mind, you will spend a lot of your time in our purpose-built clinical teaching facilities as well as working with our local Clinical Associates, the existing on-site agricultural facilities and the adjacent Veterinary Laboratories Agency.

The six-year course (D104) includes a Preliminary Year, which provides students with the relevant knowledge of biology, chemistry, animal health and husbandry required for later years of the course. See: [www.nottingham.ac.uk/ugstudy/courses/veterinarymedicineandscience/veterinary-medicine-surgery-preliminary-year.aspx](http://www.nottingham.ac.uk/ugstudy/courses/veterinarymedicineandscience/veterinary-medicine-surgery-preliminary-year.aspx).

The six-year course (D190) includes a Gateway Year, which provides an opportunity to upskill capable students who might not otherwise consider entry to the profession. Students gain the relevant scientific knowledge required for the later years of the course. This fundamental scientific understanding will be set in the context of animal structure, function, health and husbandry. Students will also develop animal handling and an appreciation of the role of animals in society. See: [www.nottingham.ac.uk/ugstudy/courses/veterinarymedicineandscience/veterinary-medicine-surgery-gateway-year.aspx](http://www.nottingham.ac.uk/ugstudy/courses/veterinarymedicineandscience/veterinary-medicine-surgery-gateway-year.aspx).

For both the six-year courses above, years 2 to 6 follow the curriculum of the five-year course.

If you aim to work in the veterinary profession, we strongly encourage you to consider applying to study veterinary medicine and surgery here at Nottingham. We believe that our courses, which integrate clinical medicine and surgery with pathology and basic sciences, ensure that a University of Nottingham graduate gains the best possible foundations on which to build their future career.

## Widening participation

Contextual offers (ABB in any order) are made to applicants who meet the University's contextual admissions criteria or the Gateway widening participation criteria. See: <https://www.nottingham.ac.uk/ugstudy/course/Veterinary-Medicine-and-Surgery-including-a-Gateway-Year-BVM+BVS+with+BVMedSci#requirements>

This course is only open to students who are living in the UK and have UK home status, indefinite leave to remain or refugee status (with a letter from the home office as evidence) at the time you make your application.

## The application

### In numbers

**300** The target number for 2024/2025 (September 2021 - 150 and April 2022 -150)

**6** The number of UK/EU applicants per place in 2022 (2022 applicants in 2022, 323 students starting course in 2023)

**20** The number of non-UK/non-EU applicants per place in 2022 (202 applicants in 2022, 10 students starting course in 2023)

### Work experience

Your application will be reviewed to ensure that you have gained at least 5 weeks of work experience within the three years prior to application. This can include:

A minimum of 3 weeks of animal handling

- Up to 2 weeks of either customer facing and/or teamwork experience
- Up to 2 weeks for the completion of the [Virtual Work Experience and Exploring the Veterinary Profession](https://www.futurelearn.com/courses/vet-school-application-support) free online course (<https://www.futurelearn.com/courses/vet-school-application-support>)

### Tests and questionnaires before interview

Applicants are required to complete three supporting questionnaires.

- Widening Participation (WP) and work experience
- Situational Judgment Test
- Personal Qualities Review

These are to be completed within one week of the 15 October deadline and will be emailed to you once your UCAS form is submitted. See: <https://www.nottingham.ac.uk/vet/study-with-us/undergraduate/how-to-apply.aspx>

## Weighting of criteria used for calling for interview

Selection for interview will be on the basis of those candidates with the overall best profile of attributes from:

- Academic ability
- UCAS statements and further information
- Situational Judgment Test

## Interview

Approximately 1000 candidates will be invited to interview. No student is admitted without interview and assessment. Interviews will be held online via MS Teams. The duration of interviews is approximately 25 minutes and will assess: motivation, insight into a veterinary career and interest in veterinary topics.

## Weighting of offers made after interview

Offers are made on performance from the assessment day (100%). All assessment centre data is compiled and standardised to reduce any differences in marking between assessors. Students are then ranked for offers.

## Twice-yearly entry

A unique aspect of our five-year course is that we have two intakes per year for the D100 5-year programme: September and April. We recently increased the number of available places on our five year course to 300. This makes for 150 students per cohort.

The refined curriculum and the way you will learn will be identical for both cohorts. As will the opportunities to develop your skills to become a highly employable veterinary surgeon.

Whichever start date you decide, you will study an identical curriculum and receive the same highly rated student experience and outstanding teaching.

The UCAS deadline remains 15 October for both cohorts and follows the same admissions process. Applicants for the April cohort should apply using course code D100. Applicants will be able to select their cohort preference via the online questionnaires.



## Typical conditional offers

**A level:** A in Biology, A in Chemistry, B in a third subject (excluding general studies, critical thinking, global perspectives and citizenship studies)

**IB:** a total of 34, with 6 in Biology, 6 in Chemistry, 5 in a third subject at higher level

**SQA Advanced Higher:** AA in Advanced Higher Biology and Chemistry

## Graduate entry

We now offer a specific graduate-entry route to the Year 2 April Cohort of D100 Veterinary Medicine for those who have studied the BSc Animal Science (Bioveterinary Track) at the University of Nottingham. All other science graduates are welcome to apply for the 5 year D100 course. Typical entry requirements for science graduates are for a 2:1 in any BSc degree, supported by B grades in both Biology and Chemistry at A level. We also require supporting qualifications of a grade B minimum in GCSE maths and C in English language.

# University of Surrey

VSM Building, University of Surrey,  
Daphne Jackson Road, Guildford, GU2  
7AL

[www.surrey.ac.uk/school-veterinary-medicine](http://www.surrey.ac.uk/school-veterinary-medicine)

[admissions@surrey.ac.uk](mailto:admissions@surrey.ac.uk)



Darren Cool Images

## Why apply to this veterinary course?

Surrey Vet School on Manor Park Campus was founded in 2015 with our first vets qualifying in 2019 with a BVMSci (Hons) Bachelor of Veterinary Medicine and Science degree. Our modern and innovative practical training and partnership-based teaching are designed to build your confidence right from day one and allow you to understand the range of career opportunities open to you.

In your first year, you'll study topics that are fundamental to veterinary medicine, including anatomy, physiology, animal husbandry, cells and genes, ensuring you have a solid foundation upon which to build the rest of your degree. During your second year, you'll learn about epidemiology, infectious diseases and pathology with some practical sessions taught off campus at Surrey Wildlife Trust, Chichester, Merrist Wood and Sparsholt Colleges.

By third year, you'll delve deeper into clinical medicine and surgery, diagnostic techniques, pharmacology and scientific communication. In fourth year, studies include anaesthesia, surgery and patient care, contemporary issues in veterinary medicine and zoological medicine. A distinguishing feature of the fourth year is the rotating cycle of small group practical workshops visiting external partners.

The final year is delivered via our external partner network of Vet practices and our Surrey-based Veterinary Pathology Centre which is one of the largest and most sophisticated of its kind in Europe. You become immersed in real practice life in small animal, farm and equine clinics throughout the year, returning to Surrey regularly for professional practice teaching. We have dedicated University staff to visit and support you on these final year placements.

In Guildford, you are close to areas of rural outstanding beauty but easy access to London and airports means you get the best of both worlds. There are plenty of libraries, clubs, local markets, and outdoor spaces. Manor Park campus hosts the £36m Surrey Sports Park, one of Europe's leading sports facilities and a stone's throw from the main vet building. Across both Stag Hill and Manor Park campuses there is a diverse, international student community with a vibrant Student Union. There are many Wellbeing initiatives including Surrey Peer Support and Vet Families - run by student volunteers trained in welcoming and supporting new and existing students in the Vet school.

We achieved 100% overall student satisfaction for this course in the UK National Student

Survey in 2021. Our students are particularly happy with the standard of teaching and the learning community.

Our BVMSci (Hons) Veterinary Medicine and Science degree programme is accredited by the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons, the regulatory body for the veterinary profession in the UK. Graduates of the University of Surrey BVMSci (Hons) programme are also recognised for automatic registration by the Australasian Veterinary Boards Council and the South African Veterinary Council. The School of Veterinary Medicine is working towards accreditation by the European Association of Establishments of Veterinary Education (EAEVE).

## Widening participation

The University of Surrey is committed to supporting students achieve their goal of studying at university regardless of their background or personal circumstances. We have a range of bursaries to support eligible students financially during their studies. These include the Asylum Seeker Bursary, Care Leaver and estranged students Bursary and University of Surrey Award ([surrey.ac.uk/fees-and-funding/scholarships-and-bursaries](https://www.surrey.ac.uk/fees-and-funding/scholarships-and-bursaries)). Travel bursaries for Open Days, Applicant Days or Interview Days are also available.

The University of Surrey uses contextual admissions and offers benefits to support eligible students, who are under-represented in Higher Education. These include a reduction in entry requirements (equivalent to one A-level grade lower), access to a current undergraduate e-mentor and invitations to exclusive events to support your transition to and through University. More details can be found at <https://www.surrey.ac.uk/apply/undergraduate/contextual-offers>

We also deliver a completely free week-long residential Veterinary Science Summer School each year, where eligible Year 12 students can attend academic lectures, seminars and practical labs at Surrey's Vet School. More details can be found at: [surrey.ac.uk/summer](https://www.surrey.ac.uk/summer)

## The application

### In numbers

**150** The target number of places on the veterinary course. We do not currently have a gateway course. We welcome graduate applicants to the full 5 year course. We accept re-applications from previously unsuccessful candidates.

**6.6** UK applicants per place (990 applications)

**1.08** Non-UK applicants per place (162 applications)

## Work experience

Applicants are expected to have gained a minimum of four weeks of animal related work experience, if possible, to include one week in a veterinary practice. The other weeks could include farm, stable yard, kennels, cattery, rescue centre, research laboratory or abattoir work. We fully appreciate the barriers there are to achieving this and if you have struggled to gain this, please let us know on [admissions@surrey.ac.uk](mailto:admissions@surrey.ac.uk)

A broad range of experience is beneficial, but additional experience beyond our minimum threshold confers no advantage. This online free virtual work experience course Introduction to [Studying Veterinary Medicine - Course - FutureLearn](#) can count as two weeks of your non-veterinary practice work experience.

All work experience must be completed by 15 January 2024.

Work/life experience gained through paid employment or volunteering is also beneficial to your career and can be discussed at interview (even if non-veterinary related) as it confers people skills, communication skills and other values we deem important, yet is not currently included in the requirement.

## Tests and questionnaires before interview

Initially UCAS applications are considered on academic achievement and achieved/predicted grades.

Applicants who pass the preliminary shortlisting will be emailed details of our online questionnaire which is designed to enable you to demonstrate that you have the necessary motivation and insight to undertake a degree in veterinary medicine. This online stage consists of two parts, the first will give you the opportunity to provide further information about your completed animal related work experience.

The second part of the questionnaire is made up of Situational Judgement Tests (SJTs) which assess key attributes outlined by the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons Day One Competencies. You will be asked to review each judgement test and rank in order the statements based on how you would react to the situation. Completed questionnaires are given an overall mark and placed into one of three categories accordingly:

- 1: Interview
- 2: Hold in waiting list
- 3: Reject (but welcome to reapply in subsequent years – full application process needs to be repeated)

All Veterinary Medicine programmes are highly competitive with limited places. Therefore, it is possible that very good applicants will not be invited to interview due to the very high number of quality applications.

## Weighting of criteria used for calling for interview

See description above of application process and online questionnaire.

## Interview

100% of applicants passing the thresholds are interviewed via multiple mini interviews. Panels for interview consists of staff, alumni vets, our partner vets and current final year students.

## Weighting of offers made after interview

Each of the three stages must be passed at the threshold level.

## Typical conditional offers

**A level:** AAA to include Biology and Chemistry grade A

**BTech:** D\*DD in a science OR animal-related subject plus A-level Chemistry Grade A

**IB:** 35 - to include 6 in Higher Level Biology and Higher Level Chemistry

**SQA Higher and Advanced Higher:** Higher grades AAAAB or AAA in Highers +AA in Advanced Highers- including Biology and Chemistry Grade A

**GCSE (or equivalent):** Minimum of five subjects at grade A (7) or above to include Chemistry, Biology and Physics (or Double Science). Mathematics and English Language are required with a minimum of grade B (5). All applicants are required to meet the minimum GCSE requirements.

## Graduate entry

Minimum 2:1 in a Bioscience related subject (we may also look at your A Level grades if your degree does not meet our Biology and Chemistry requirements). We welcome graduate entry candidates.

## Contextualised admissions

We are pleased to be able to offer contextual offers to eligible applicants. Contextual admissions are where we use additional information, like socio-economic factors, to understand the context in which you have achieved your qualifications, enabling us to identify performance and potential.

Depending on your predicted grades and if you meet the eligibility criteria, you will receive a contextual offer that is typically one A-level grade or equivalent lower than the published grade for the programme you are applying for. The grade reduction cannot be applied to required subjects.

**Veterinary Schools Council**

Woburn House

Tavistock Square

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[admin@vetschoolscouncil.ac.uk](mailto:admin@vetschoolscouncil.ac.uk)

