

## **IMPORTANT INFORMATION PLEASE READ**

### **VACCINATIONS DURING CORONAVIRUS OUTBREAK**

#### **UPDATE 2**

During the current situation, we are having to make the difficult decision to alter our working patterns & services. As part of this, our governing body, the RCVS (Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons) and, our industry associations, the BVA (British Veterinary Association) and the BSAVA (British Small Animal Veterinary Association) have reviewed their previous advice regarding vaccinations which during the initial lockdown prevented any vaccinations in small animals being carried out.

This new advice allows us to offer certain vaccinations to our clients' pets and advises us when such vaccinations may be carried out now the lockdown period has been extended and social distancing remains an inevitable normality for the foreseeable future.

#### **Booster Vaccinations**

##### *Cats and Dogs*

For adult cats and dogs, immunity is considered to be provided for up to 3 months beyond the 12-month vaccination interval.

We can now offer booster vaccinations as follows:

Adult dogs that are overdue their vaccination by one month or more. Dogs overdue their vaccine by three months or more will require to restart their vaccinations - requiring two vaccinations 4 weeks apart.

Adult cats that are overdue their vaccination by two months or more. Cats overdue their vaccine by three months or more will require to restart their vaccinations - requiring two vaccinations 3 weeks apart.

##### *Rabbits*

For adult rabbits a single booster vaccination is sufficient to boost their immunity.

Rabbit vaccinations can now be booked as soon as their booster is due.

#### **Kennel Cough Vaccinations (Dogs Only)**

Kennel cough is a vaccine requiring a single application on an annual basis.

At present we can only give kennel cough vaccinations if given at the same time as a pet's annual booster vaccination (see above). If your dog's kennel cough vaccination is due during the government lockdown and your pet does not require its booster vaccination, we will vaccinate your dog against kennel cough as soon as the lockdown is over.

#### **Rabies Vaccinations (Dogs, Cats & Ferrets)**

Rabies is a vaccine only required if your pet regularly travels abroad. To ensure your passport remains valid your pet's rabies vaccination must be given prior to the expiry

date detailed in your pet's passport. Should you not be able to vaccinate your pet against rabies during the lockdown, and, as a result, your pet's rabies vaccine passes the expiry date, we will vaccinate your pet against rabies as soon as the lockdown is over. Please note in this instance your pet will have to wait 21 days before being able to travel abroad again.

The above advice is still current but if you are planning to travel abroad during lockdown or had a blood test carried out after your pet's original rabies vaccine then please call us – we can vaccinate a pet against rabies in certain circumstances but this is based on individual circumstances.

### **Puppy & Kitten (Cat and Rabbit) Vaccinations**

We are now able to offer primary vaccinations to puppies and kittens.

For those puppy and kittens that have started their vaccination course and were not able to complete the course during the initial lockdown we can now complete their course which may require them to restart.

### **Finances**

Rest assured we are here to ensure the health of your pet, therefore, any pet required to restart their vaccinations due to Covid-19 will be charged no more than our usual booster price. Puppies and kittens that are part way through their course that require to restart their course will be charged no more than our normal primary vaccination course price. This means if you have already paid for the full course upfront then no further payment will be required.

### **Vaccination Reminders**

During the Covid-19 outbreak we will be sending out vaccination reminders as per usual to ensure you are informed when your pet requires his/her vaccination(s). You can then book your pet's vaccination as per the time frames outlined above.

Finally, please keep safe during this extraordinary time and rest assured that if you need any advice, however small it may seem, we are here to advise you. Please check out our Covid-19 page on our website for further updates:

<https://www.willettthouse.co.uk/news/coronavirus-update/>

**Willett House Team**