

Home Vet Select Home Visit Protocol – Dogs Requiring Additional Handling Support

1. General Approach

Our priority is to ensure a safe, low-stress environment for both the patient and all individuals present during the visit. Some dogs may require additional handling considerations to allow procedures such as vaccination to be carried out safely.

2. Location of Examination

For dogs that are not comfortable with close handling or clinical procedures:

- The consultation may be conducted outside the property (e.g., garden, driveway, or vehicle area), where the dog feels more at ease
- Or inside the property, provided appropriate safety measures are in place

3. Use of Muzzle

- Dogs that are unable to be safely handled must be appropriately fitted with a muzzle prior to examination
- Muzzles can be provided by Home Vet Select if required
- Owners are encouraged to ensure their dog is accustomed to wearing a muzzle where possible

4. Handling and Restraint

- A responsible adult must be present to assist with handling if required
- Leads, harnesses, or other appropriate restraint equipment must be used at all times
- We reserve the right to stop the consultation if safe handling cannot be achieved

5. Sedation (Pre-Visit Planning)

- In cases where handling is not possible, sedation may be required
- This may involve a pre-visit assessment and medication administered prior to the appointment
- Owners must follow all instructions carefully to ensure the best outcome

6. When Procedures Cannot Be Completed

Despite careful planning, there may be situations where vaccination or examination cannot be completed due to:

- Insufficient response to sedation
- Safety concerns during handling
- Underlying medical conditions identified during the visit

In these cases, the procedure may be postponed and alternative plans discussed.

7. Fees

The home visit fee will still apply, regardless of whether vaccination or treatment can be completed. This reflects the time, travel, and professional assessment provided during the visit.

8. Owner Responsibility

Owners play a key role in ensuring a successful visit. This includes:

- Providing accurate information about their dog's behaviour and medical history
- Following pre-visit instructions (including sedation if prescribed)
- Ensuring appropriate equipment (lead, harness, etc.) is available