



Course Information

# L3 DIPLOMA IN SMALL ANIMAL HYDROTHERAPY

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# Welcome Message

Operation K9 Academy Ltd was created in 2024 by Vicky Clarke and Rebecca Wilkinson, two Veterinary Nurses and Small Animal Hydrotherapists, with a vision to provide innovative, high quality, tailored hydrotherapy training in order to enhance and improve the Small Animal Hydrotherapy and Rehabilitation industry.

We believe training should be holistic, tailored and personal. We are passionate about sharing our wide ranging experience and our enthusiasm for optimal, gold-standard care with our students, and aim to produce highly knowledgeable and skilled practitioners, in order to elevate the services and treatments on offer throughout our industry.

Our centre and courses are approved and awarded by Ofqual approved AIM qualifications and Assessment Group.



# Course Overview

This Level 3 Diploma in Small Animal Hydrotherapy has been designed to give students the skills and knowledge required to practice as competent, holistic hydrotherapy practitioners, and is recognised to allow registration to NARCH and IRVAP on successful completion.

There is a mix of theory and practical modules, with a blend of online and face-to-face learning tailored to the students needs, with guaranteed practical placement in our sister company,, Operation K9 Hydrotherapy and Rehabilitation centres in North and East Yorkshire.

The course is made up of 14 mandatory modules, including Advanced Treadmill Techniques, and is assessed via a range of assessment including portfolio work and practical days

Course provision can be tailored, bespoke to each individual learner based on previous experience, location and learning preferences, however there will be mandatory, in-person practical days at one of our centres.





# Practical Facilities

Operation K9 Academy Ltd runs alongside Operation K9 Hydrotherapy and Wellness Centre Ltd. With well established centres in Beverley, East Yorkshire, and Sherburn, North Yorkshire, you are guaranteed to be able to complete thorough practical training in optimal standard, fully equipped centres.

Both centres have an aquatic treadmill and hydrotherapy pools, along with supporting auxiliary equipment. Operation K9 has built an excellent reputation in the surrounding areas with both Veterinary practices and pet owners, offering gold standard care and treatment, and is proud to be a very busy centre with full and varied patient and client base.

Both centres are staffed with qualified, registered hydrotherapists, veterinary nurses and veterinary physiotherapists, giving students access to a wealth of experience and knowledge

Visit [www.operationk9.co.uk](http://www.operationk9.co.uk) to see more about the centres.





**Rebecca Wilkinson**  
**RVN MIAAT MIRVAP**  
**(ICH) NCert (An) Beh**



**Vicky Clarke RVN BSc**  
**(Hons) MIRVAP (ICH)**  
**Cert Ed.**

# Meet The Team

## **Vicky Clarke RVN BSc (Hons) MIRVAP (ICH) Cert Ed.**

Vicky began as a Veterinary Nurse in 2010, before going on to study a degree in Equine Rehabilitation, before joining Rebecca's team at Operation K9 Hydrotherapy centre in 2019. Vicky has also spent time as a veterinary nursing lecturer, which sparked her passion for education.

## **Rebecca Wilkinson RVN MIAAT MIRVAP (ICH) NCert (An) Beh**

Rebecca is a veterinary nurse of over 17 years, going on to open Operation K9 Hydrotherapy Centre back in 2014. Rebecca has a keen interest in all aspects of therapy and rehabilitation, with a focus on educating veterinary staff on nurses potential in practice.

# Module Overview

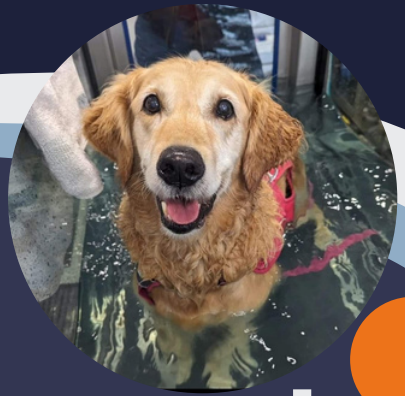


- Module 1 - An Introduction to Hydrotherapy**
- Module 2 - Anatomy and Physiology of Small Animals**
- Module 3 - Maintenance of Equipment and Water Balance**
- Module 4 - Small Animal First Aid**
- Module 5 - Hydrotherapy and Related Conditions**
- Module 6- Tissue Healing Process**
- Module 7 - Small Animal Assessment for Hydrotherapy**
- Module 8 - Small Animal Behaviour**
- Module 9 - Gait Analysis and Biomechanics**
- Module 10 - Introduction to Small Animal Massage**
- Module 11 - Practical Aquatic Treadmill Therapy**
- Module 12 - Practical Administration of Hydrotherapy**
- Module 13 - Practical Advanced Aquatic Treadmill Techniques**
- Module 14 - Professional Practice Management**

Each module is mandatory, with no optional units. Each will include a variety of informal and formal assessment, as well as production of one overall portfolio.

A combination of independent learning, live online learning and face-to-face sessions will be utilised.

All practical elements will be carried out at Operation K9 Hydrotherapy Centre.



# Application and Enrolment

There are no formal entry requirements for this course, however we will hold an informal interview, and do recommend students obtain work experience in a hydrotherapy centre or similar environment if they are new to the industry.

If students have no animal handling experience, particularly with canines, we will require they obtain this elsewhere prior to enrolment onto the course, or they can book a taster day in one of our centres.

Please email [academy.operationk9@gmail.com](mailto:academy.operationk9@gmail.com) to discuss our admissions policies, fees and to request an application form.

On successful application, you will be enrolled onto the course, given a log-in to our online learning platform and invited to an enrolment event. There are multiple enrolment opportunities throughout the year.





# Contact Us



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Operation K9 Academy



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