



iPET Network
**Level 3 Diploma in Dog
Breeding, Litter Socialisation
and Welfare**
Qualification Number - 610/1676/7
Qualification Specification



iPET Network

LED BY INDUSTRY EXPERTS.

DRIVEN BY PASSION.

BOUND BY ANIMALS.

GUIDED BY CANDIDATES.

UNITED BY iPET NETWORK.

Our Mission

EDUCATION FOR PEOPLE, FOR PETS, FOR THE FUTURE

To be the Awarding Organisation of choice for Training Providers, Employers and Learners in the Animal Care and Veterinary Science Sector.

We demand the highest standard of practice to ensure our suite of qualifications work: they work for pets who deserve the best care; they work for learners giving valuable skills, and they work for Training Providers with strong market appeal.

Leading the way:

iPET Network is an Awarding Organisation regulated by Ofqual, CCEA Regulation and Qualifications Wales, specialising in qualifications in the Animal Care and Veterinary Science sector. iPET Network is a sector-specific Awarding Organisation and are constantly developing innovative animal care and veterinary science qualifications in the industry. We are unique in our approach to development, design and awarding of qualifications through the range of services and support we offer. Additionally, iPET Network is an End-point Assessment Awarding Organisation (EPAO) for English Apprenticeship standards and offers Professional Development Recognition (PDR) of unregulated educational courses.

Our approved Training Providers have exclusive access to our portfolio of qualifications, courses, learning materials and assessment strategies. We offer an inclusive opportunity to join a diverse network of forward-thinking professionals across the UK, Ireland, Europe and internationally.

We do the hard work for you – fast, flexible and straightforward:

We have developed robust systems at the forefront of technology that include extensive resources, quality learning materials and varied assessment methods. Our centralised platform makes it simple for Training Providers and their teams to deliver, manage, mark and quality assure all in one place. We provide access to training and updates through standardisation to uphold modern best practice.

Organisations of many different types, who want to deliver education, can join iPET Network, taking advantage of becoming a direct approved Training Provider. With transparent fees and packages to suit every size of organisation from sole traders to limited companies, colleges and large employers.

An exciting and supportive community:

We practice what we preach - the iPET Network team has extensive experience and knowledge of working in the animal care, veterinary science and education sector. We provide support, advice and Continual Professional Development to help Training Providers offer the best standard of education and to inspire the future generation of the industry. We believe in removing learning barriers and working with Candidates of all abilities to help them reach their full potential.

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1. About This Qualification

The **iPET Network Level 3 Diploma in Dog Breeding, Litter Socialisation and Welfare** has been developed to meet the needs of Candidates who wish to gain the in-depth practical skills and knowledge to breed ethically and responsibly, with the focus on welfare. It is for Candidates who want to learn the skills and knowledge to enable them to raise their litters using proven methods of socialisation and habituation and for Candidates who then want to learn the skills and knowledge to be able to profile and match their puppies to appropriate homes, to safeguard the puppies longer term development and security.

The qualification has been designed to meet the Defra requirements for dog breeding licensing and addresses providing for the needs of dogs throughout their lifetime. It may be studied following achievement of the Level 3 Certificate in Dog Breeding, Litter Socialisation as a top-up qualification.

Leading industry experts have reviewed this qualification to ensure the outcome is appropriate for the canine breeding industry and the continued growth and development of the sector.

The qualification is a balance of theoretical and practical learning to ensure that vocational skills lead the qualification with underpinned knowledge developed throughout.

iPET Network is dedicated to the improvement of animal welfare through education and training. As such, we support the ethical and welfare-centred breeding of dogs, focussed on breeding for health rather than appearance and endorses lawful fertility practices under the Veterinary Surgeons Act, 1966.

Objectives of the qualification

This qualification has been designed to enable Candidates to:

- Access a holistic approach to breeding
- Work practically with dogs and puppies
- Gain skills to breed, raise, socialise and place puppies with health and welfare at the core
- Provide whole-life care
- Practically oversee the breeding and raising of puppies from start to finish
- Understand licensing requirements for dog breeders

The qualification will:

- Prepare individuals to progress to another qualification in the same subject area, studying at a higher level or a qualification requiring more specific knowledge, skills and understanding
- Improve employability skills
- Encourage engagement in learning.

Suggested progression following completion of the qualification:

- iPET Network Level 3 Award in Canine Emergency First Aid
- iPET Network Level 3 Diploma in Canine Nutrition
- Level 3 in Animal Management

- Level 3 in Canine Care / Canine Behaviour / Welfare
- Employment in the canine industry

It is a requirement that assessment of this qualification is conducted in English.

The iPET Network Level 3 Diploma in Dog Breeding, Litter Socialisation and Welfare is a regulated qualification.

Guided Learning Hours (GLH)

Guided Learning Hours (GLH) are defined by the Apprenticeships, Skills, Children and Learning Act, 2009 as the number of hours the Candidate spends:

- Being taught or given instruction by a lecturer, tutor, supervisor or other appropriate provider of education or training, or
- Otherwise participating in education or training under the immediate guidance or supervision of such a person.

GLH does not include time spent on unsupervised preparation or study, whether at home or otherwise.

iPET Network has calculated the GLH for this qualification representing an estimate of the amount of actual guided learning which could reasonably be expected to be required to achieve the standard required to obtain the qualification.

Estimated GLH will be stated for each unit which should be used by Training Providers as a guide for devising teaching and learning plans. GLH may be recorded within the e-portfolio (if being used) or within the Candidate Hours Log (if the e-portfolio is not used).

Total Qualification Time (TQT)

Total qualification time is defined as the number of Guided Learning Hours (GLH) **plus** the time taken by the Candidate for independent, unsupervised study. Individual Learners' requirements and individual teaching styles mean there will be variation in the actual time taken to complete a qualification. Values for Total Qualification Time are estimates as some Candidates will be able to achieve units and qualifications within a shorter time than indicated. Others, for example those with additional support requirements, may need longer.

Guided Learning Hours and Total Qualification Time for this qualification are:

iPET Network Level 3 Diploma in Dog Breeding, Litter Socialisation and Welfare

GLH (Guided Learning Hours): 100 hours

TQT (Total Qualification Time): 370 hours

Qualification Delivery Requirements

This qualification may be delivered as the Training Provider sees fit, ensuring that iPET Network published Guided Learning Hours requirements are met. As part of the application to deliver, Training Providers must be able to evidence how they intend to deliver the qualification, including the methods by which they will achieve the estimated GLH and TQT.

2. Candidate Requirements

Entry requirements

There are no specific entry requirements for this qualification; however, in order to be able to complete the practical assessment associated with this qualification, you will need to have access to a breeding bitch and her litter. This does not need to be your own, you may be able to use a bitch/litter belonging to your Tutor if they have this availability. This should be discussed between the Tutor and Candidate PRIOR to registration of the Candidate.

Minimum age

The minimum age for access to this qualification is 16 years.

Training Providers ought to satisfy themselves that Candidates have a level of maturity appropriate for units included in the courses that they offer. If in doubt, please contact iPET Network for advice.

Reasonable Adjustment and Special Considerations

Assessment within the iPET Network Level 3 Diploma in Dog Breeding, Litter Socialisation and Welfare qualification is designed to be accessible and inclusive. The assessment methodology is appropriate and rigorous for individuals or groups of Candidates.

If you have Candidates with identified learning needs you should refer to the Reasonable Adjustment and Special Considerations Policy, available from iPET Network. This gives clear guidance on the reasonable adjustments and arrangements that take account of disability or learning difficulty without compromising the achievement of the assessment criteria.

Further guidance and support can be accessed by contacting iPET Network.

3. Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL)

Exemption (also known as 'Recognition of Prior Certificated learning') - is the facility for a Candidate to claim exemption from some of the achievement requirements of an iPET Network qualification using certificated evidence, for example certificated NQF achievement. This must be of an equivalent or higher value to an iPET Network unit but may not share the exact assessment criteria or learning aims.

Training Providers wishing to obtain further details regarding awarding of RPL should refer to the iPET Network **Recognition of Prior Learning Policy**.

Candidates who have already completed the Level 3 Certificate in Dog Breeding, Litter Socialisation and Welfare are eligible for Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) of the credits achieved. The following units are recognised as completed:

Unit Title	Credits	Unit Code
341: Canine Care and Welfare in Pregnancy	5	J/650/0324
342: Whelping and Aftercare	3	K/650/0325
343: Litter Socialisation for Breeders	5	L/650/0326
TOTAL CREDITS	13	

This leaves the following units remaining to be completed to achieve the Level 3 Diploma in Dog Breeding, Litter Socialisation and Welfare:

Unit Title	Credits	Unit Code
366: Canine Health, Anatomy and Behaviour for Breeders	5	Y/650/4688
367: Principles of Professional Competency in Dog Breeding	5	A/650/4689
368: Practical Breeding and Placement of Puppies	14	H/650/4690
TOTAL CREDITS	24	

Candidates wishing to accredit their prior learning on the Level 3 Certificate in Dog Breeding, Litter Socialisation and Welfare must be able to evidence their completion and certification of all associated units to be eligible. A top-up registration fee per Candidate will be payable by the Training Provider, inclusive of an administration fee.

4. Induction / Initial Assessment

An initial assessment of each Candidate should be made before the start of their programme to identify:

- If the Candidate has any specific learning or training needs (including access to breeding bitches and litters of puppies)
- The support and guidance they may need when working towards their qualification
- The Candidate's suitability for the type and level of qualification.

Each Training Provider must carry out an induction so that Candidates fully understand the requirements of the qualification, their responsibilities as a Candidate, and the responsibilities of the Training Provider. This information will need to be recorded e.g., within a contract.

5. Achieving the Qualification

Credits

To be awarded the iPET Network Level 3 Diploma in Dog Breeding, Litter Socialisation and Welfare, Candidates must achieve 37 credits.

Unit achievement

All of the assessment criteria in a unit must be met before the unit is deemed to be achieved. The unit achievement is not graded: units are either achieved or not achieved.

Recording achievement

Training Providers must record the Candidate's achievement of each unit on an appropriate form(s) or electronic system. Training Providers should record the Candidate's achievement against the specific unit assessment criteria evidenced by the task.

Authentication of the Candidate's work

Tutors must demonstrate that the Candidate's work is authentic. This can be done through using iPET Network's e-portfolio system which provides secure access to each Candidate or through use of an alternative e-portfolio system. If a Training Provider is using paper-based portfolio, they must be able to demonstrate authenticity of the work and must provide transparent feedback from marking to internal quality assurance.

Assessments must demonstrate authenticity please refer to assessment methods in this Qualification Handbook.

Duration of registration

All Candidates will be registered with iPET Network for a period of 24 months. Failure of the Candidate to complete the qualification during this timeframe will incur an additional charge for re-registration. Please refer to your **Terms and Conditions** for further details. Extension to registration may be obtained with written permission under specific extenuating circumstances. Please contact iPET Network for advice regarding extensions to registration.

6. Qualification Structure

Units

iPET Network Reference No.	Title	Level	Credit	GLH	TQT	Unit Reference number
366	Canine Health, Anatomy and Behaviour for Breeders	3	5	20	50	Y/650/4688
367	Principles of Professional Competency in Dog Breeding	3	5	20	50	A/650/4689
341	Canine Care and Welfare in Pregnancy	3	5	20	50	J/650/0324
342	Whelping and Aftercare	3	3	10	30	K/650/0325
343	Litter Socialisation for Breeders	3	5	20	50	L/650/0326
368	Practical Breeding and Placement of Puppies	3	14	10	140	H/650/4690
TOTALS			37	100	370	

Level descriptor

Level	Knowledge Descriptor (the holder...)	Skills Descriptor (the holder can...)
Level 3	<p>Has factual, procedural and theoretical knowledge and understanding of a subject or field of work to complete tasks that while well-defined, may be complex and non-routine.</p> <p>Can interpret and evaluate relevant information and ideas.</p> <p>Is aware of the nature of the area of study or work.</p>	<p>Identify, select and use appropriate cognitive and practical skills, methods and procedures to address problems that while well-defined, may be complex and non-routine.</p> <p>Use appropriate investigation to inform actions.</p> <p>Review how effective methods and actions have been.</p>

	Is aware of different perspectives or approaches within the area of study or work.	
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7. Assessment

This qualification requires achievement of the specified units and summative assessments. The assessment process is as follows:

1. Assessments are developed by iPET Network and provided to the Training Provider or assessments may be devised by the Training Provider and approved by iPET Network in advance
2. The assessment is then delivered and implemented by the relevant iPET Network approved Training Provider
3. All Tutors involved in the assessment process must have been approved by iPET Network, on an individual basis, in advance of any assessments being carried out
4. Compiled portfolios of assessed evidence are internally quality assured by an iPET Network approved Internal Quality Assurer (IQA) via remote sampling.
5. Completed portfolios of assessed evidence are then quality assured by an External Quality Assurer (EQA) approved by iPET Network.

Assessment method

Assessment is through a Portfolio of Evidence/Workbook and 1x Professional Discussion.

Specimen Assessment Materials

Specimen assessment materials are not available for this qualification.

Marking

These assessments are pass or fail and the Assessor's decision is final. The use of artificial intelligence to mark any candidate's work is strictly prohibited.

*Please note re-assessments are permitted.

Qualification grading

This qualification is graded pass or fail and the Assessor's decision is final.

Appeals

To ensure a fair assessment procedure is carried out the Candidate must be fully briefed on the assessment requirements and given the instructions on their right to appeal. All Training Providers must have an up to date appeals procedure.

What constitutes a fail?

It is at the Tutor's professional discretion if they pass or fail the Candidate. It is recommended that all elements of each assessment criteria are met and that all knowledge activities are completed.

Examples of what may constitute a fail:

- A lack of overall knowledge of dog breeding
- Failure to evidence understanding of the importance of health and temperament
- Failure to use appropriate protocols maintaining health and welfare

When making an assessment decision it is important that all evidence and feedback is documented to support the assessment decision whether it is a pass or fail. If the decision is a fail, then the Candidate must be provided with support and the opportunity to re-sit the assessment once they are ready.

8. Offering the Qualification

Training Providers wishing to deliver this qualification will need to demonstrate the ability to adhere to quality assurance and assessment regulations.

All procedures for the use of this qualification or units of this qualification, including approval, registration of Candidates, quality assurance process and certification will be completed through iPET Network, who will have an allocated member of the Quality Team to support the Training Provider. Any queries or difficulties should be directed to the allocated Team member or if they are not available, via the iPET Network office on 0800 433 4700.

Approval to offer the qualification

Training Providers wishing to offer this qualification must note the requirements stipulated in Appendix A.

To offer this qualification, potential Training Providers must apply for Training Provider approval with iPET Network. Applications can be made via email info@ipetnetwork.co.uk or by calling 0800 433 4700.

In addition, to gain approval to offer the qualification, Training Providers must apply by submitting an iPET Network **Qualification Approval Form** which can be downloaded from the website.

For more information, visit our website www.ipetnetwork.co.uk.

Standardisation

Standardisation is a process that promotes consistency in the understanding and application of standards.

Standardisation:

- Establishes statements on the standard of evidence required to meet the assessment criteria for the units in iPET Network Qualifications

- Makes recommendations on assessment practice
- Produces advice and guidance for the assessment of units
- Identifies good practice in assessment.

It is a requirement of the Training Provider approval process that each Training Provider offering units from iPET Network qualifications must provide assessment materials and Candidate evidence for standardisation if requested.

iPET Network will notify Training Providers of the required sample(s) for standardisation purposes. Assessment materials, Candidate evidence and Tutor feedback must be sent to iPET Network by Training Providers.

Outcomes from standardisation will be available to Training Providers through iPET Network.

Support for Training Providers

iPET Network provides all Training Providers with on-going support and advice on the use of iPET Network units and qualifications, including the requirements for assessment.

If Training Providers who are approved to offer iPET Network units and qualifications have obtained a UKPRN (UK Provider Reference Number) from the UKRLP (UK Register of Learning Providers), this will be used as the Training Provider's reference number. If a Training Provider has not obtained a UKPRN they will be issued with a unique iPET Network Training Provider number.

Information about obtaining a Unique Learner Number (ULN) on behalf of the Candidates is included in the ***iPET Network Training Provider Manual***.

Training Provider responsibilities

Each Training Provider should identify a named contact person who will be responsible for any iPET Network provision within the Training Provider organisation.

The Training Provider contact must ensure all procedures relating to the delivery of the qualification operate effectively in the centre.

The Training Provider contact is the person responsible for confirming and ensuring that the Training Provider meets all the iPET Network requirements for Training Provider recognition.

The Training Provider contact is responsible for ensuring all relevant iPET Network documentation is distributed as required within the Training Provider and that the security requirements for external assessment are adhered to, where applicable.

9. Appendix A – Requirements to Offer This Qualification

To offer this qualification, Training Providers must ensure that Tutors delivering this qualification have both of the following recognised professional qualifications and relevant experience to demonstrate their experience;

- the iPET Network Level 3 Certificate/Diploma in Dog Breeding, Litter Socialisation and Welfare.

and

- Experience of breeding Canines. Evidence portfolio will need to be provided, which can include references, photos/videos and written submissions.

Or

- Minimum 10 years breeding experience, following appropriate protocol – Evidence portfolio will need to be provided, to include references, photo/video and written submissions. To include a reference from a vet.

Or

- holds a UK Dog Breeding licence, licence to be used as evidence with a supporting reference from their licensing officer (the licensing officer to confirm the DEFRA protocols on socialisation and enrichment).

Or

- Qualified Veterinary Surgeon or Veterinary Nurse

and

hold a teaching certificate (examples detailed below) and / or demonstrate teaching experience

- iPET Network Level 3 Award for Educators in the Canine and Feline Sector; or
- the Level 3 Award in Education and Training; or
- the Level 4 Certificate in Education and Training; or
- Level 3 or 4 PTLLS (or equivalent).

If no formal teaching qualification is held, it will be a requirement that a teaching qualification is achieved within 12 months of approval.

Training Providers must also ensure that they have in place an Internal Quality Assurance person who:

- Holds or is working towards a Level 4 Award in Internal Quality Assurance of Assessment Processes and Practices or its equivalent
- Has substantial experience of working in the animal care industry
- Is familiar with the assessment requirements of the qualification for which they are the Internal Quality Assurer

Or

- Registration packages including IQA services are used (**Refer to Training Provider Fees**)

10. Qualification Unit Breakdown and Assessor Guidance

Unit title:	Canine Health, Anatomy and Behaviour for Breeders
Level:	3
Credit value:	5
GLH:	20
TQT:	50
Unit code:	366
Unit reference number:	Y/650/4688
Unit aim:	The aim of this unit is to provide knowledge and understanding of the anatomy of a dog to support understanding of the anatomical landmarks and the basics of body systems. This unit will also develop an understanding of the health care measures that can be used to minimise disease, canine behaviour, body language and communication signals and to introduce basic principles of canine learning and training.
Number of learning outcomes	8

Learning Outcomes	Assessment Criteria
The learner will:	The learner can:
1. Know and understand basic canine anatomy	1.1. Identify the external anatomical landmarks of the dog
	1.2. Identify the main bones and functions of the canine skeleton
	1.3. Identify the main body systems of the dog and the organs / structures within them
	1.4. Describe adult and puppy teeth
2. Know and understand infectious disease and its prevention	2.1. Define the term 'infectious' and describe the disease-causing organisms
	2.2. Describe the clinical signs of a range of canine infectious diseases
	2.3. Describe mechanisms of disease transmission
	2.4. Explain the meaning of the term 'zoonosis' and give examples
	2.5. Explain the meaning of the term 'reverse zoonosis' and give examples
	2.6. Explain the difference between endo- and ectoparasites
	2.7. Describe the signs and symptoms of pest infestation
	2.8. Describe available treatments for endo- and ectoparasitic infestations
3. Know and understand the importance of routine health care for dogs	3.1. Describe the importance of health checks for dogs

	3.2. Describe the areas of the dog that should be regularly health checked
	3.3. Describe the key signs and causes of obesity in dogs
4. Understand the importance of appropriate first aid training and recognise sick and injured animals	4.1. Explain how and why canine first aid training is important
	4.2. Describe common signs of pain, illness or injury in dogs
5. Know and understand behaviour patterns in dogs	5.1. Explain the evolution of the dog and how this influences canine behaviour
	5.2. Discuss the importance of the senses in canine behaviour
	5.3. Explain the natural behaviours of dogs and understand their meaning
6. Know and understand how dogs communicate through use of body language and vocalisation	6.1. Recognise common body language and communication signals in dogs
	6.2. Explain how dog behaviour can escalate
7. Know and understand safe approaches to handling and restraint of dogs with a range of behaviours	7.1. Explain how to assess behaviour when approaching dogs
	7.2. Explain the methods that could be used if a dog is displaying threatening / aggressive behaviour
	7.3. Describe techniques for approach and manual restraint of dogs
8. Know and understand principles of how dogs learn and basic training techniques	8.1. Explain how dogs learn
	8.2. Describe the basic canine training techniques that can be used
	8.3. Identify stress-related behaviours and methods of prevention

Unit title:	Principles of Professional Competency in Dog Breeding
Level:	3
Credit value:	5
GLH:	30
TQT:	50
Unit code:	367
Unit reference number:	A/650/4689
Unit aim:	The aim of this unit is to provide the knowledge and understanding required to enable Candidates to recognise the essential needs of all dogs under their care and provide for them accordingly. The unit also addresses working within the law and Defra licensing guidance and considers essential elements of ensuring the breeding establishment functions efficiently and effectively.
Number of learning outcomes	13

Learning Outcomes	Assessment Criteria
The learner will:	The learner can:
1. Know and understand the different breeds of dogs and their typical characteristics	1.1. Describe the UK Kennel Club breed groups giving an example breed from each group and their typical characteristics.
	1.2. Explain the difference between a UK Kennel Club registered pure breed and a mixed breed dog
	1.3. Explain the differences between puppies and adult dogs
2. Know and understand the principles of breeding and the associated welfare requirements of all dogs	2.1. Discuss the principles of breeding and their importance
	2.2. Explain when and how often a bitch should be bred from
	2.3. Discuss the breeder principles in relation to the health of bitches and their offspring
	2.4. Explain the essential canine welfare needs and how each can be accommodated in the breeding environment
	2.5. Describe essential accommodation requirements for breeding bitches and their puppies
	2.6. Explain how to ensure the housing conditions for breeding bitches and their puppies are safe and secure
	2.7. Explain the maximum period for which dogs may be left unattended
3. Know and understand nutritional and feeding requirements of adult dogs and puppies	3.1. Define nutrition and explain how it contributes to canine health
	3.2. Explain how each essential nutrient contributes to canine health
	3.3. Describe types of dog food and their advantages and disadvantages

	3.4. Explain feeding routines for breeding bitches
	3.5. Explain the importance of behaviour assessment around food
	3.6. Explain how food can be used as an enrichment opportunity
	3.7. Explain the importance of weight management and causes of obesity
4. Know and understand handling and restraint aids and practices	4.1. Describe the different handling and restraint aids and their advantages and disadvantages
5. Know and understand relevant animal legislation	5.1. Explain the legislation that is relevant to the keeping of dogs
	5.2. Describe the consequences of breaking the relevant legislation
	5.3. Describe the law surrounding transport of dogs, pregnant bitches and puppies
6. Know and understand the importance of cleanliness and hygiene	6.1. Explain why cleanliness and hygiene is important
	6.2. Describe the processes and frequency of keeping the environment hygienic, detailing the products that are safe for use
	6.3. Explain health and hygiene around food preparation
7. Understand insurance requirements for dog breeding establishments	7.1. Summarise the different types of insurance required in the management of your business
8. Understand health and safety obligations as a breeder	8.1. Explain the principles of relevant health and safety legislation
	8.2. Describe the importance of risk assessments as a dog breeder
	8.3. Explain the key components of a risk assessment
	8.4. Create a risk assessment for one area of your breeding environment
	8.5. Explain how to create Method Statements
	8.6. Describe the key elements of a health and safety policy for a breeding business
	8.7. Explain control procedures for emergencies
	8.8. Explain the importance of first aid courses for both breeders and their employees
	8.9. Explain the key components of the veterinary health and welfare plan
9. Understand the management of finances and legal obligations	9.1. Explain how to create a budget to ensure sale of puppies covers overheads
	9.2. Recognise the importance of financial record keeping
	9.3. Explain the requirement for management and payment of income tax
	10.1. Evaluate your market and customers

10. Understand the principles of ethical marketing of puppies	10.2. Describe the different platforms that may be used to market your business
	10.3. Explain how to utilise high-quality photography to market your puppies
	10.4. Describe the importance of transparent and informative adverts, availability/visibility to clients and use of appropriate online platforms and breed clubs
11. Know and understand key responsibilities as an employer	11.1. Explain how to determine sufficient staffing levels
	11.2. Describe methods of recruitment and retention of staff
	11.3. Explain the support available to breeders and employees via a network of other industry professionals
	11.4. Explain the importance of planning for continued professional development
12. Know and understand the advised content of puppy packs and paperwork for new owners	12.1. Explain the documents required for new owners at the point of sale
13. Understand the importance and types of records that must be kept in relation to breeding	13.1. Describe the importance of record keeping
	13.2. Describe the key records that must be kept in relation to breeding

Unit title:	Canine Care and Welfare in Pregnancy
Level:	3
Credit value:	5
GLH:	20
TQT:	50
Unit code:	341
Unit reference number:	J/650/0324
Unit aim:	The aim of this unit is to provide the knowledge, skills and understanding of how to plan appropriate mate selection, provide the correct care for a pregnant bitch and the understanding of laws relevant to breeding and licensing.
Number of learning outcomes	8

Learning Outcomes	Assessment Criteria
The learner will:	The learner can:
1. Understand the considerations to be made prior to breeding and appropriate mate selection.	1.1. Give reasons for breeding
	1.2. Health test their dog prior to breeding
	1.3. Check Inbreeding calculator (COI)
	1.4. Compare a good and a bad proposed mating
2. Understand the importance of qualified support	2.1. Evidence how they would source an appropriate vet and fertility clinician
3. Understand UK Breeding Law and licensing requirements	3.1. Explain if they do, or do not need a license to breed in the UK
	3.2. Explain Lucy's Law and the impact for Breeders
4. Understand the mating process	4.1. Explain the bitch's cycle, observe when she is in Proestrus, discuss ovulation detection and describe the mating process.
5. Understand Canine Herpes Virus and its dangers	5.1. Describe Canine Herpes, how it can affect the bitch and puppies and explain how to protect breeding animals from the virus
6. Understand how to confirm pregnancy and the trimester breakdown	6.1. Explain how to diagnose pregnancy
	6.2. Explain trimesters in pregnancy
7. Understanding of foetal development	7.1. Explain the growth process of a prenatal puppy
8. Understand how to care for the Pregnant Bitch	8.1. Describe why is it important to worm
	8.2. Explain the importance of vaccinating
	8.3. Describe how to feed a pregnant bitch
	8.4. Explain how to safely exercise a pregnant bitch

8.5. Identify the female reproductive system



Unit title:	Whelping and Aftercare
Level:	3
Credit value:	3
GLH:	10
TQT:	30
Unit code:	342
Unit reference number:	K/650/0325
Unit aim:	The aim of this unit is to provide the knowledge, skills and understanding to enable the Candidate to whelp a bitch safely, including troubleshooting. This will also include preparing the appropriate environment, kit, and the physical signs that veterinary care maybe required.
Number of learning outcomes	9

Learning Outcomes	Assessment Criteria
The learner will:	The learner can:
1. Know and understand Whelping Preparation	1.1. Explain required preparation prior to whelping
2. Understand the Whelping Process	2.1. Describe how to monitor for signs of impending labour
	2.2. Explain the stages of labour
3. Understand how to recognise problems during whelping	3.1. Explain how to identify complications during whelping
4. Understand methods of care and welfare for the new-born puppy	4.1. Explain how to clamp an umbilical cord safely
	4.2. Explain how to revive a new-born puppy
5. Understand how to administer aftercare to bitch and puppies	5.1. Explain the process for monitoring the bitch for infection
	5.2. Describe the process for sexing and weighing puppies
	5.3. Describe how to monitor potential birth defects
	5.4. Explain how to monitor temperature of accommodation
	5.5. Explain the correct feeding requirements for the bitch
6. Understand the importance of and the time frames for parasite treatment	6.1. Explain the worming and flea treatment plan
	6.2. Discuss safe worming and flea products
7. Understand immunisation, the reasons for and the time frames for administering and boosters to bitches and puppies	7.1. Explain the time frame for vaccination in puppies
	7.2. Discuss the reasons for and against immunisation versus Titre Testing
	7.3. Explain what the diseases are that we vaccinate against and their symptoms

8. Understand the weaning process	8.1. Discuss the deciding factors when weaning puppies
9. Understand the importance of safe and effective disinfectant products	9.1. Discuss and compare products that are safe for use with dogs and puppies
	9.2. Complete COSHH sheet for a safe cleaning product



Unit title:	Litter Socialisation for Breeders
Level:	3
Credit value:	5
GLH:	20
TQT:	50
Unit code:	343
Unit reference number:	L/650/0326
Unit aim:	The aim of this unit is to provide the knowledge, skills and understanding on how to raise a litter of puppies, embedding effective socialising and stimulation. The Candidate will know how to observe their puppies, assess their behaviours and match them to appropriate homes.
Number of learning outcomes	18

Learning Outcomes	Assessment Criteria
The learner will:	The learner can:
1. Understand the importance of socialisation and what it means	1.1. Explain the term “socialisation” and what it means and discuss the reasons for its importance
2. Be able to identify the equipment required for socialising litters	2.1. List the socialisation equipment required and describe its uses
3. Understand Early Neurological Stimulation and Early Scent Introduction	3.1. Explain and describe the processes for Early Neurological Stimulation and Early Scent Introduction, when and why you would do them and the benefits of this protocol
4. Understand the importance of sound desensitisation	4.1. Explain when and why we introduce the litter to different sounds
	4.2. Identify and discuss at least 3 sound specific clips and their benefits longer term
5. Know and understand the importance of textures and levels	5.1. Explain how and what can be used to safely expose litters to different textures and levels
6. Understand early house training	6.1. Explain how and when we start house training and compare litter trained to non-litter trained puppies
7. Understand the importance of human interaction	7.1. Explain how and why we can best introduce our puppies to people
8. Know and understand the importance of canine interaction	8.1. Explain why it is important and how best to introduce an older and unrelated dog to a litter
9. Understands the benefits of early crate training	9.1. Explain the benefits of crate training for owners and breeders
	9.2. Describe how to safely introduce puppies to the crate
10. Understands the topic of car training	10.1. Describe the benefits of introducing puppies to the car
	10.2. Explain the process of safe introduction

11. Understands the importance of experiencing the outside world	11.1. Explain why exercise is important for development
	11.2 Describe the items that can be used in an outside playpen and their uses
12. Learn how to start early recall exercises	12.1. Describe how to start early recall exercises for the whole litter
	12.2. Explain and discuss the benefits of the early recall protocol
13. Understands the importance of nail care	13.1. Explain why nail care is important for puppies
	13.2. Explain why nail care is important for the bitch
14. Understands what a fear period is and when they are likely to affect puppies	14.1. Describe what a fear period is, what causes them and how you can identify them, then explain how best to manage puppies through this period
15. Understands the importance of sleep and processing for puppies	15.1. Identify when a puppy needs to sleep, and the benefits of regular structured sleep
16. Understanding the natural tendencies of specific breeds	16.1. Identify breed specific likes and dislikes. Discuss the traits that a breeder could work with to tailor socialisation in line with breed specific tendencies and behaviours
17. Understand what profiling is and why it is important	17.1. Describe profiling puppies, explaining the detail of the protocol
	17.2. Explain the importance of observing puppies throughout their development as individuals
18. Understanding Singleton Puppies and their care and behaviour requirements	18.1. Describe the protocols you would need to employ if you have a singleton puppy and explain the processes you would use to ensure the puppies long term health and behaviour are catered for.
	18.2. Explain why you would need to raise a singleton puppy differently to a litter and what behavioural implications there may be.

Unit title:	Practical Breeding and Placement of Puppies
Level:	3
Credit value:	14
GLH:	10
TQT:	140
Unit code:	368
Unit reference number:	H/650/4690
Unit aim:	The aim of this unit is to enable Candidates to demonstrate the skills required to plan and conduct an appropriate mating, care for the bitch during pregnancy and whelping and provide high standards of care for the bitch and her puppies following whelping. This unit will enable Candidates to gain experience of socialising puppies and matching them to their new homes, providing support to new owners throughout.
Number of learning outcomes	6

Learning Outcomes	Assessment Criteria
The learner will:	The learner can:
1. Be able to plan health testing and select an appropriate mate in accordance with breeding objectives	1.1. Access appropriately qualified health testing information and plan the health tests required prior to mating
	1.2. Correctly match a breeding pair
2. Be able to plan for and assist, where appropriate, in the mating process	2.1. Recognise the start of the bitch's season
	2.2. Make arrangements to test for ovulation with a suitably qualified person
	2.3. Communicate effectively with necessary parties in the mating process
	2.4. Supervise a mating either naturally or with the use of Artificial Insemination (AI) (under veterinary care only)
3. Be able to confirm pregnancy, provide appropriate care and welfare to the pregnant bitch and prepare for the whelping, including equipment	3.1. Obtain confirmation of pregnancy via ultrasound scan
	3.2. Provide appropriate care to the bitch throughout pregnancy, maintaining health and welfare
	3.3. Prepare for whelping a litter of puppies
4. Be able to monitor the bitch for impending labour and assist with the whelping	4.1. Recognise signs of impending labour in the bitch
	4.2. Recognise the signs of labour in the bitch
5. Be able to provide appropriate aftercare to the bitch and puppies, monitoring the health and welfare until they are ready for homing	5.1. Provide appropriate care for the bitch and puppies immediately after whelping
	5.2. Provide appropriate care for the bitch and puppies through lactation
	5.3. Devise an appropriate weaning regime

	5.4. Implement a relevant and appropriate socialisation program to ensure puppies are robust and ready for the homes they will be living in as adults
	5.5. Provide the necessary veterinary health checks for puppies
6. Be able to observe and match puppies to appropriate owners and provide support to the puppies	6.1. Observe and monitor puppies' individual behaviours and match them to appropriate homes
	6.2. Ensure that new owners are prepared for a puppy, and can provide an appropriate home for the breed
	6.3. Provide correct information to new owners regarding their puppy
	6.4. Effectively communicate with and support new puppy owners

Assessment information

All Assessment Criteria must be evidenced. For guidance on assessment, including principles of assessment and methods which may be used, Training Providers should consult the 'Assessment' section of the iPET Network Qualification Handbook and relevant policies.

Sector Subject Area (SSA)	3.3
Date from which qualification will be available for learners	17/11/2022
Qualification review date	19/10/2024

11. Suggested Learning Resources

Unit Title	Suggested learning resources
Canine Health, Anatomy and Behaviour for Breeders	<p>Books</p> <p>Emergency first aid for dogs at home and away Published by: Hubble & Hattie, 2015 ISBN: 1-845-84386-X - Bucksch, M.</p> <p>The A to Z of First Aid and Emergency Care for Dogs and Cats: How to save an ill or injured pet. Published by: CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform, 2014 ISBN: 1-493-71045-1 - Glover, A.</p> <p>Introduction to Animal and Veterinary Anatomy and Physiology. Published by: CABI, 2019 ISBN: 978178924117 – Aspinall, V. & Capello, M.</p> <p>The Kennel Club's Illustrated Breed Standards: The Official Guide to Registered Breeds Published by Ebury Press; 4th edition - Kennel Club</p> <p>The Happy Dog Owner: Finding Health and Happiness with the Help of Your Dog Published by: Welbeck Publishing, 2021 ISBN: 9781787396555 Westgarth, C.</p> <p>The Dog: Its Behaviour, Nutrition and Health Published by: Blackwell Publishing, 2013 (second edition) ISBN: 9781118701201 Case, L. P.</p> <p>Practical Canine Behaviour For Veterinary Nurses and Technicians Published by: CABI, 2021 (second edition) ISBN: 9781789246810 Hedges, S.</p>
Principles of Professional Competency in Dog Breeding	<p>Literature</p> <p>The Kennel Club's Illustrated Breed Standards: The Official Guide to Registered Breeds Published by Ebury Press; 4th edition - Kennel Club</p> <p>The Dog Law Handbook Published by: Sweet & Maxwell, 2011 (Second edition) ISBN: 0-414-04818-0 Clayden, P.</p> <p>The Dog: Its Behaviour, Nutrition and Health Published by: Blackwell Publishing, 2013 (second edition) ISBN: 9781118701201 Case, L. P.</p> <p>Practical Canine Behaviour For Veterinary Nurses and Technicians Published by: CABI, 2021 (second edition) ISBN: 9781789246810 Hedges, S.</p> <p>Doglopaedia: A complete guide to Canine Care Published by: Ringpress Books, 2012 ISBN 978-1-86054-074-5 J.M Evans & Key White</p> <p>Complete Puppy & Dog Care: What Every Dog Owner Needs to Know Published by: Mitchell Beazley, 2018 (1st edition) ISBN-10: 1784723495 / ISBN-13: 978-1784723491 Fogle, B.</p> <p>The Happy Dog Owner: Finding Health and Happiness with the Help of Your Dog Published by: Welbeck Publishing, 2021 ISBN: 9781787396555 Westgarth., C.</p>

	<p>RSPCA New Complete Dog Training Manual Published by: Dorling Kindersley, 2006 (1st edition) ISBN-10: 1405314400 / ISBN-13: 978-1405314404 Fogle, B.</p> <p>Emergency first aid for Dogs at Home and Away Published by: Hubble & Hattie, 2015 ISBN: 1-845-84386-X - Bucksch, M.</p> <p>The A to Z of First Aid and Emergency Care for Dogs and Cats: How to save an ill or injured pet. Published by: CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform, 2014 ISBN: 1-493-71045-1 - Glover, A.</p> <p>Introduction to Animal and Veterinary Anatomy and Physiology. Published by: CABI, 2019 ISBN: 978178924117 – Aspinall, V. & Capello, M.</p> <p>Websites</p> <p>https://www.bluecross.org.uk/pet-advice/socialising-your-puppy https://www.vets4pets.com/pet-health-advice/dog-advice/vaccinating-your-dog/ https://www.thekennelclub.org.uk/health-and-dog-care/health/health-issues-in-dogs/ https://www.aspca.org/pet-care/dog-care/common-dog-behavior-issues/aggression Homepage UK Pet Food Dog laws UK Blue Cross https://www.thekennelclub.org.uk/search/breeds-a-to-z/ https://www.rspca.org.uk/webContent/staticImages/Downloads/PedigreeDogsReport.pdf https://www.bluecross.org.uk/pet-advice/puppy-and-dog-vaccinations https://www.bva.co.uk/media/2811/20190710-chs-eye-disease-guide-0719-v1-web.pdf Parasites in dogs - PDSA https://www.dogstrust.org.uk/help-advice/factsheets-downloads/basicdogtrainingfactsheetnov13.pdf https://www.pdsa.org.uk/taking-care-of-your-pet/looking-after-your-pet/puppies-dogs/how-much-exercise-does-your-dog-need https://www.purina.co.uk/articles/dogs/behaviour/understanding-dogs/understanding-dog-body-language</p>
<p>Canine Care & Welfare in Pregnancy</p>	<p>Literature</p> <p>The Book of the Bitch ISBN; 9781850541158</p> <p>National Geographic “In the Womb”</p> <p>Websites</p> <p>https://www.thekennelclub.org.uk https://www.dogstrust.org.uk</p> <p>www.defra.gov.uk</p> <p>Dog breeding licence (England) - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)</p> <p>Lucy’s Law spells the beginning of the end for puppy farming - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)</p>

<p>Litter Socialisation for Breeders</p>	<p>Carmen Battaglia - Podcast - Dr. Carmen Battaglia – Breeding SUPER Dogs Pure Dog Talk Gayle Watkins Avidog Early Scent Introduction for Neonate Puppies - Avidog University</p> <p>Website/Blogs/Articles</p> <p>Early Neurological Stimulation Breeding Better Dogs</p> <p>Socialising Your Puppy Blue Cross</p>
<p>Whelping and Aftercare</p>	<p>Web Articles</p> <p>Tests to Predict Puppy Temperament and Personality (thesprucepets.com) Genetics, behavior, and puppy temperament testing - The Institute of Canine Biology</p>
<p>Practical Breeding and Placement of Puppies</p>	<p>Websites and books</p> <p>Home - suzanneclothier</p>

12. Supporting Documents and General

The following documents contain essential information for Training Providers delivering iPET Network qualifications. They should be referred to in conjunction with this handbook. To download the documents and to find other useful documents, go to www.ipetnetwork.co.uk, the web portal or SharePoint.

iPET Network Training Provider Manual
 iPET Network Quality Assurance Requirements
 Malpractice and Maladministration Policy and Procedure (including Sanctions)

Document Control

Document Name: Level 3 Diploma in Dog Breeding, Litter Socialisation and Welfare – Qualification Specification

Document Number: Q57

Date of Correction	Version Number	Correction Reason
04/01/2023	2	Updated PFMA to UK Pet Food
13/06/2023	3	Change of document name from 'Qualification Guide' to 'Qualification Specification' and amendment to assessment section
08/01/2024	4	Specimen assessment materials clarified, qualification review section updated and formatting updates