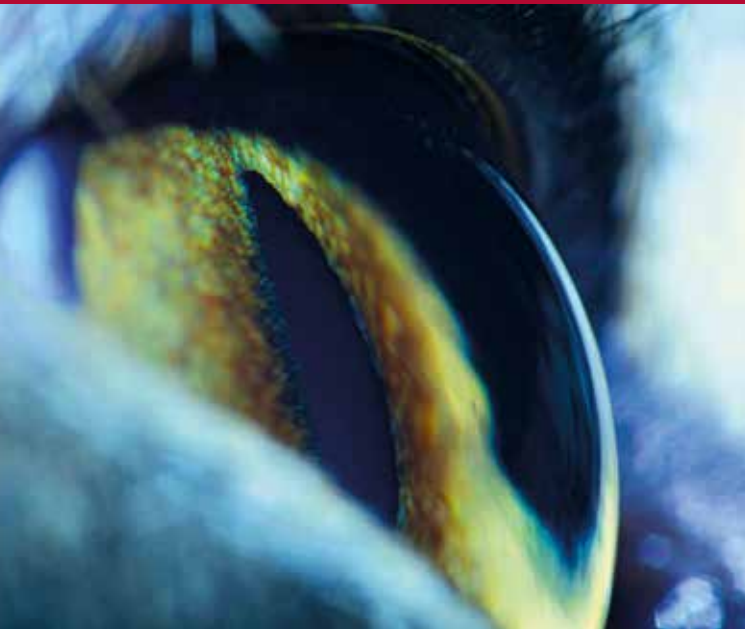


# BSAVA Postgraduate Certificate Programmes

BSAVA  
postgraduate  
programme





# Introduction

**Welcome to the BSAVA Postgraduate Certificate Programmes! BSAVA are proud to offer high quality, structured and supportive programmes of study for veterinary surgeons working in first opinion practice who want to pursue further qualifications. Our aim is to help to develop you into confident, competent and enthusiastic veterinary surgeons who are able to provide a consistently high standard of care.**

We understand how challenging it can be to fit postgraduate study into a busy life – work, friends and family, time for hobbies and relaxation are all important. We have therefore worked hard to develop programmes of study that allow you the flexibility to choose how intensively you work, and even to take a year out from your studies if you need to.

Each of our programmes entails a combination of attendance at day courses and online study. The day courses offer a great opportunity to ask questions and engage in discussion with the teachers, but also to meet and make new friendships with fellow students – our feedback has emphasised how



important these face to face days are and many of our previous students have commented on how much they miss meeting up with the group each month. Each day course is followed by a period of supported and guided online study. The huge advantage of online study is that it can be done at a time and place convenient to you – listening to podcasts in the car or when walking the dog, dipping into a discussion forum during a quick coffee break, or working through a quiz or case problem after the children are in bed.

From 2020 onwards, all students in their first three years of study will benefit from membership of RCVS Knowledge, giving

access to the RCVS Knowledge library and support from RCVS Knowledge staff. We know that studying for a postgraduate certificate may be tough and that it is possible to feel isolated when studying online so we have support in place if you need it – not only from teachers and fellow students, but also from a network of mentors willing to offer advice and encouragement.

There are currently more than 450 students studying on the BSAVA Postgraduate Certificate programmes, consisting of Small Animal Medicine, Small Animal Surgery, Small Animal Ophthalmology and Small Animal Emergency & Critical Care. The

qualifications are validated through Nottingham Trent University, and each carry 60 academic credits at Masters level. The BSAVA Postgraduate Certificates are approved as a certificate-level qualification for the purposes of the RCVS Advanced Practitioner list. The medicine and surgery programmes have also been approved by VetCEE (Veterinary Continuous Education in Europe).

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## **Lucie Goodwin**

BVetMed DipACVIM MRCVS

**BSAVA Head of Education**







## BSAVA Postgraduate Certificates to choose from

- Small Animal Medicine
- Small Animal Surgery
- Small Animal Emergency & Critical Care
- Small Animal Ophthalmology

**COMING SOON:** Postgraduate Certificate in Small Animal Diagnostic Imaging

## What do the BSAVA Postgraduate Certificates offer?

- An opportunity to develop discipline-based knowledge and skills which will be invaluable in practice
- Flexible yet structured study through a combination of taught courses and online activities
- Academic and pastoral support throughout your studies
- Learning from outstanding teachers, delivering practical and clinically relevant material
- A new confidence and enthusiasm when handling cases
- A source of like-minded individuals to discuss cases with, and build friendships along the way
- A university-validated qualification recognised and respected by peers and employers alike





# BSAVA Postgraduate Certificate in Diagnostic Imaging opening for enrolment soon!

The BSAVA Postgraduate Certificate in Diagnostic Imaging will denote a confident and competent primary care veterinary surgeon who is able to practice a consistently high standard of veterinary care in diagnostic imaging.

## **Aims of the Programme**

The BSAVA Postgraduate Certificate in Diagnostic Imaging is aimed primarily towards veterinary surgeons working in small animal practice who have a particular interest in diagnostic imaging. The aim is to provide participants with the knowledge and expertise they need to confidently and competently choose the most clinically relevant diagnostic imaging technique and to accurately interpret images obtained with radiography and ultrasonography. Furthermore, participants will enhance their understanding of more advanced imaging techniques (CT and MRI) and will begin to be able to identify gross pathology on CT images.

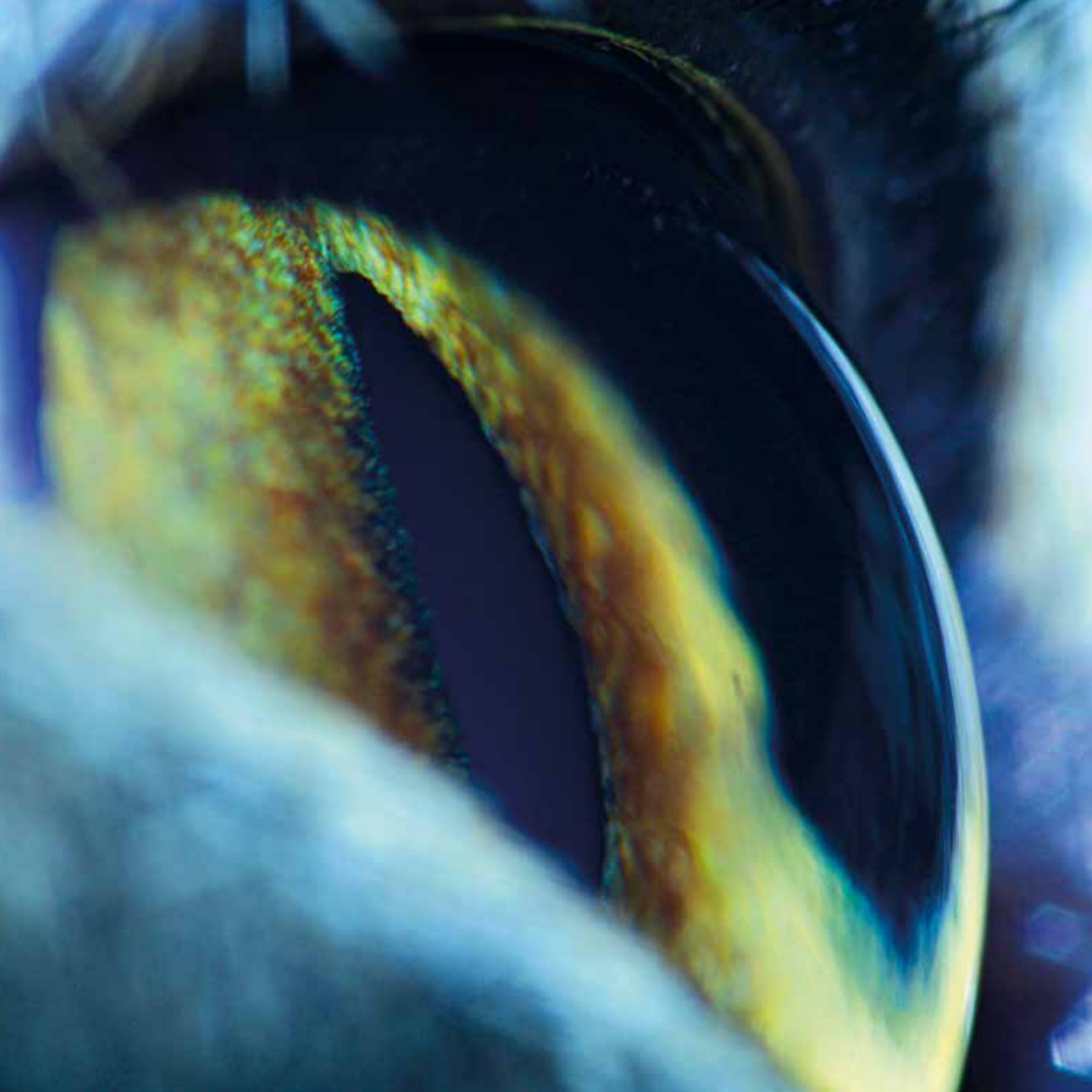
## **Programme format**

All students will study a core of 15 subject units followed by an elective. Of the core units, 8/15 will include an attendance day (6 of which will be practical or workshop based in nature); the remaining 7 will be delivered online. The taught session within each unit will be supplemented by a range of online resources and activities (such as quizzes, short answer questions, live imaging rounds and discussion forums). Each of the elective units will include 2 attendance days (practical or workshop in nature), 2 days of practice observation and reflection and online teaching. To personalise study to the student's interest, there will be at least two electives to choose from (currently Enhanced Cardiac imaging and Enhanced Ultrasonography).

The core and elective material will be taught in the first two years, with a written exam and course work assessment in the third year.

Contact us at [certificate@bsava.com](mailto:certificate@bsava.com) so we can keep you informed of when enrolment will open.







# How are the BSAVA Postgraduate Certificates structured?

The BSAVA Postgraduate Certificates are divided into two modules:

## Module I

### ***Medicine Surgery ECC and Ophthalmology***

#### **20 taught day courses**

Each of the 20 small units begins with a one day course of teaching and discussion, combining lectures and interactive case discussions. For the Small Animal Surgery, Small Animal Ophthalmology and Small Animal Emergency & Critical Care certificates, some of these modules will be practical in nature.

### ***Diagnostic Imaging***

#### **15 core units plus an elective**

Eight of the core subject units will include an attendance day comprising of practical skills training, lectures and interactive case based discussion. The remaining seven core subject units will be delivered entirely online through a combination of webinars and live streamed imaging rounds. The elective will contain online teaching and 2 attendance days.

#### **Online resources and activities**

You will have access to the BSAVA education website, which hosts a variety of activities and resources. There will be an online assessment task for each unit, for which you will get feedback.

Typical resources include:

- Recommended reading lists
- Notes and lecture presentations from the taught course
- Access to podcasts (BSAVA Congress MP3s), and publications like JSAP and Companion
- Multiple choice questions or short question exercises
- Case-based problem solving exercises
- Image interpretation exercises
- Webinars
- Online moderated discussion forums

#### **Assessment of Module I**

Satisfactory completion of each unit will require attendance at the taught course (where applicable) and participation in all compulsory online activities. When all units have been completed, there will be a formal written examination which candidates must pass before progressing to the next section of the programme.

## Module II

### **Casebook**

Eight cases will be presented, illustrating a variety of clinical presentations, and demonstrating the candidate's ability to work logically through a case, to select and justify the decisions made, and to evaluate the outcome in the context of the published literature. A short reflective commentary will be required for two of these cases. Module II comprises submission of 8 short case reports and two extended commentaries.

### **Case Diary**

Candidates on the diagnostic imaging certificate will need to submit a portfolio of prescribed images in addition to the case book.





# Nottingham Trent University

NOTTINGHAM  
TRENT UNIVERSITY

The BSAVA Postgraduate Certificates are validated by Nottingham Trent University. As a validated centre, BSAVA is approved to offer one or more specified awards. The University retains responsibility for the approval of modifications to existing courses, introduction of new courses and provides substantial input into the quality assurance processes underpinning the courses of study offered.

Students studying and successfully passing a BSAVA Postgraduate Certificate will be awarded a Nottingham Trent University certificate.

## What support will I get along the way?

When you enrol on the BSAVA Postgraduate Certificate programme you will be allocated a mentor whose role is to provide you with general advice and encouragement should you need it. There is also a designated casebook co-ordinator to provide you with advice about the preparation of your casebook. There will also be frequent opportunities for you to ask questions, either through taught courses, online discussion boards or the central academic enquiry point.

## Hours of study

Each subject unit is designed to entail approximately 20 hours of study. This is made up of the one day taught course (7 hours), review of the course notes and participation in the online resources and activities (approximately 13 hours). This is a guide only and will vary with individuals, and their knowledge and skill base upon entering the programme. Module I is thus designed to involve around 400 hours (20x20) of study.

A further 200 hours has been allowed for preparation of the casebook for Module II.

Most students will complete their studies over 3 years. Completing ten subject units and online activities in year 1, the remaining ten subject units and online activities in year 2, and the written exam, casebook submission and oral examination in year 3. However it is possible to complete the programme less intensively over a period of four or five years if you prefer.





## Enrolment criteria

The criteria for enrolment onto the BSAVA Postgraduate Certificate courses are as follows:

- Applicants must hold a veterinary qualification
- UK based applicants must be on the RCVS Home Practising Register
- Applicants based outside the UK must hold a veterinary qualification which would entitle them to register as a member of the RCVS
- Applicants must have spent a minimum of one year in veterinary practice
- Veterinary surgeons who qualified in 2007 or later and who are based in the UK must have completed the RCVS Professional Development Phase (PDP) before they can enrol

As the course is both taught and assessed in English, applicants must have a good command of both spoken and written English. We do not enforce testing, but suggest a minimum requirement of British Council IELTS grade 6.5 or equivalent. Equivalent experience may include the successful completion of a degree or other accredited postgraduate qualification in the English language or a significant period of residence/work placement in an English-speaking country.

## How to enrol

You can now enrol on a BSAVA Postgraduate Certificate at any time throughout the year from the BSAVA website [www.bsava.com/postgradcert](http://www.bsava.com/postgradcert). Places are offered on a first come first served basis. There is one intake of students per year on each of the programmes.

We will notify you within three working days of receipt as to whether or not you have successfully secured a place. We will then send you a full enrolment pack, which must be completed, signed and returned with a non-refundable deposit of £300.00 by the stated deadline in order to confirm your place.

If numbers are such that we cannot enrol you immediately we will place you on a waiting list and will contact you as soon as a place is available for you.

## Fees

Students are required to pay an annual enrolment fee for each of the first 3 years of their studies. In 2022 this fee is set at £3730 plus VAT\*.

This fee covers:

- Attendance at each of the taught courses run for the programme of study during the year
- Access to all online activities and resources
- Membership and support from RCVS Knowledge
- All examination fees
- Academic and pastoral support
- Registration with Nottingham Trent University
- BSAVA membership
- Discounted admission to BSAVA Congress
- Discount on BSAVA manuals

Please note: If studies are extended, then the full enrolment fee is not payable in years 4 and 5. Students will be required to maintain their BSAVA membership, and to pay a fee each year for registration with Nottingham Trent University (currently set at £100 plus VAT).

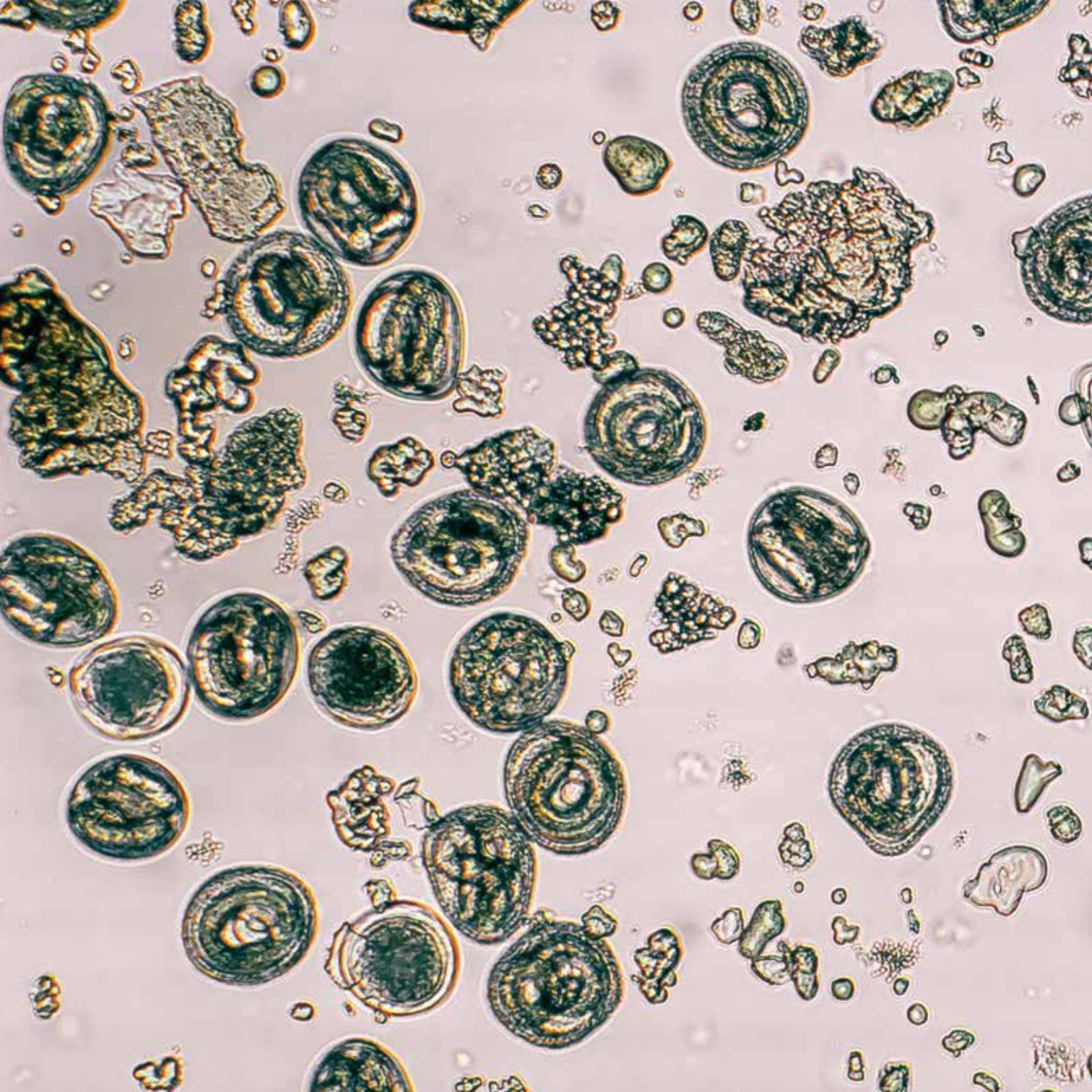
### Payment methods

Credit card, BACS, cheque, monthly direct debit.

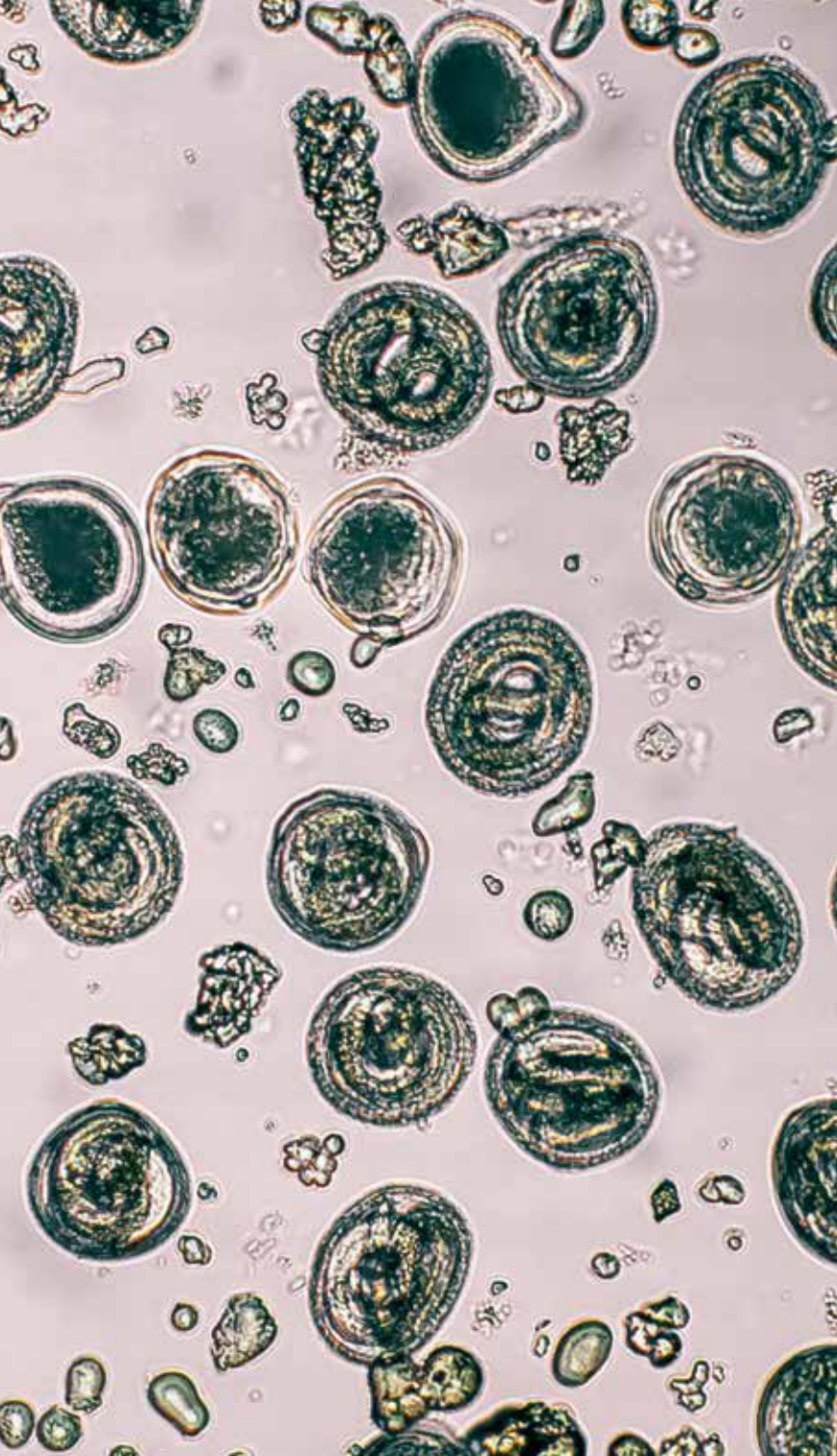
All students who are in the first three years of study are provided with membership of RCVS Knowledge. This allows full access to the electronic library, as well as support from the RCVS Knowledge team.

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\*The annual enrolment fee is set each year, and may therefore undergo a modest inflationary increase each year.







## RCVS Advanced practitioner list

The BSAVA PGCerts are approved as appropriate postgraduate qualifications for the purposes of the RCVS Advanced Practitioner List. There is no requirement to undertake additional accredited training in Professional Key Skills for holders of BSAVA PGCerts gained in 2017 or later. For full details of the requirements and procedure for application to the RCVS Advanced Practitioner List please visit [www.rcvs.org/education/advanced-practitioner-status/](http://www.rcvs.org/education/advanced-practitioner-status/)

## Masters

The new Masters in Clinical Veterinary Research is intended to give vets, particularly those working in practice, the chance to undertake some clinical research.

The qualification, validated by Nottingham Trent University, is aimed at people who already have any accredited postgraduate certificate (60 credits at Level 7) relevant to some aspect of veterinary medicine or surgery. It is based on a further 1,200 study hours and could be flexibly achieved in two years of part-time study or up to five years, depending on the project type and an individual's availability. The Masters programme starts with online study into the principles of clinical research, which students will then apply to their own research project.

For further information please email [masters@bsava.com](mailto:masters@bsava.com)

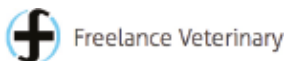




## Our sponsors

BSAVA would like to say a huge thank you to our sponsors for supporting us in delivering our practical courses. And we look forward to continuing to work with you in the future.

- Ethicon
- Freelance
- Kruuse
- SJ Hales Veterinary Speciality Products
- Veterinary Instrumentation
- Vygon



## FAQs

### Where are the taught courses held?

The Small Animal Medicine and Small Animal Surgery courses are held at BSAVA HQ in Gloucester as well as the Radisson Blu Hotel, Manchester Airport, with the Small Animal Surgery practical courses being held at University of Bristol.

The Small Animal Emergency & Critical Care courses are held at BSAVA HQ in Gloucester and Vets Now HQ in Dunfermline.

The Small Animal Ophthalmology courses are held at BSAVA HQ in Gloucester and The Cambridge Belfry Hotel in Cambridgeshire.

Please note: BSAVA reserves the right to use alternative venues for day courses from time to time.

### Can I spread the cost of the enrolment fee?

Yes, you can spread the fee by paying by monthly direct debit.

### Does the enrolment fee cover examination costs?

Yes, examination costs are included, so there are no additional fees to pay.

### When do the Postgraduate Certificates start?

The Small Animal Medicine and Surgery Certificates start in January and the Small Animal Ophthalmology and ECC Certificates start in May.

## Contact info



[certificate@bsava.com](mailto:certificate@bsava.com)



[www.bsava.com/postgradcert](http://www.bsava.com/postgradcert)



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BSAVA  
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# BSAVA

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