

BSAVA

Postgraduate Certificate in Small Animal Surgery

Working with



**Post
Graduate
Certificate**



At the BSAVA we are deeply committed to enabling veterinary professionals to achieve their ambitions in their chosen fields.

Our Small Animal Surgery Postgraduate Certificate is designed with you in mind; empowering you to enhance your career in a supportive environment. We know that flexibility is important, so we offer a hybrid learning model that can be tailored to suit you. Our teaching standards are exceptional; and so is our community of learners, allowing you to confidently enhance your skills and knowledge.

I am proud to offer our Postgraduate Certificate Programmes to the profession and look forward to supporting you on your learning journey.

Laura Haddock
Academic Manager

Supportive learning at the BSAVA

Why choose the BSAVA for your Postgraduate Certificate?



➤ **Designed by vets for vets**

Our courses are built to meet the needs of veterinary professionals, particularly those in first opinion practice.

➤ **Learn from the best**

Benefit from outstanding speakers and enjoy a top-tier educational experience from a world-renowned association established over 60 years ago.

➤ **Join a thriving community**

We are proud to have helped over 700 vets advance their education and enhance their careers.

➤ **Consistent support**

You will be supported by a team of tutors and mentors throughout your studies. Our courses are arranged into taught units, giving you the structure and guidance you need to succeed.

➤ **Work-life balance**

Our hybrid and flexible learning model is designed to seamlessly fit around your work-life balance. You can take up to 5 years to complete your studies, giving you peace of mind should life take some unexpected turns.

What our students say

“
It is extremely rewarding.”



“
I honestly think it's the best surgical certificate that's currently available (for how much we learn, how the knowledge is delivered, and a very positive attitude we experience during the course) and I always recommend it to my colleagues.”

”

“

It has been a fabulous experience and I would recommend it to anyone. The course structure was really accessible and as a working mum the modular format helped me fit it around family life.

”



Introducing the Small Animal Surgery Certificate

Take your career to new heights and aim for excellence in practice with the Small Animal Surgery Postgraduate Certificate. Designed to enhance your surgical knowledge and practical skills, this certificate equips you to excel in all areas of small animal surgery needed for general practice. It builds your confidence in handling surgical cases with precision, while offering a flexible, independent learning experience backed by consistent, expert support.

This flexible programme combines independent learning with high level support and resources to help you succeed.

Upon completion, you will be awarded the BSAVA Postgraduate Certificate in Small Animal Surgery (BSAVAPGcertSAS).



A Postgraduate Certificate with the BSAVA

- › 60 academic credits at level 7
- › Approved qualification for the RCVS advanced practitioners list
- › Validated by Nottingham Trent University
- › Membership of the RCVS knowledge with access to the RCVS knowledge library

Key facts

- › **Start date:** January
- › **Duration:** Three years with extended study available if needed
- › **Price:** £4,444 + VAT per year, with total prices starting from £13,332 + VAT

The course structure

Our Small Animal Surgery Postgraduate Certificate is designed for part-time study and delivered through a combination of in-person teaching days at our outstanding facilities and guided, self-paced online activities; giving you the benefits of both in-person and online education.

Practical workshops are a cornerstone of the programme, and we provide industry-leading equipment for these sessions, to ensure your learning experience is exceptional.

Students will have access to the BSAVA education learning site which outlines your programme clearly, and provides learning outcomes, important dates, notes, webinars, discussion forums and more.



Structure and learning

The course consists of two modules, equating to a total of 200 study hours per year (including self study). We also include a Professional Key Skills course (at no extra cost), which will provide you with the academic requirements needed to gain Advanced Practitioner status from the RCVS.

Module I

- › **Twenty units:** each comprised of:
 - **An in-person day course**
 - **Theory units** include lectures, interactive case-based discussions and activities.
 - **Practical units** include practical skills training at our exceptional practical facilities.
 - **A period of online study**, featuring webinars and interactive activities, with ongoing support from the subject specialist and a dedicated member of the BSAVA team.
- › **One written examination:** testing the knowledge you have acquired in Module I, prior to progressing to Module II.

Module II

A Casebook is submitted at the end of the third year, this allows you to showcase your ability to work through cases logically, justify your clinical decisions and evaluate outcomes in the context of published literature. Here's what is involved...

- › **Eight case reports** make up the casebook. Designed to be completed by vets working in first opinion practice and don't require specialist equipment.
- › **Two reflective commentaries** focusing on the veterinary skills you have developed.

You will benefit from a dedicated casebook tutor to ensure you have the support you need.

Course content

Below is a breakdown of the units you will cover within the programme.

Principles of surgery

Abnormalities of bone

Abnormalities of joints

Fracture management I

Fracture management practical

Abdomen I

Abdomen II

Abdomen practical

Surgical oncology & reconstructive surgery practical

Neurology

Forelimb I

Forelimb practical

Hind limb I

Hind limb II

Hind limb practical

Head and Neck I

Head and neck II

Head and neck practical

Thorax

Thorax practical



Facilities

Course days are divided between Woodrow House in Gloucestershire, the heart of the BSAVA, and conferencing facilities in Manchester, providing perfect venues for learning and networking. Practicals are held at Hartpury College in Gloucestershire, which provides exceptional learning facilities.



How to get started?

To enrol in the BSAVA Postgraduate Certificate:

- › 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 that would entitle them to register as members 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) or Graduate Development Programme (VetGDP) before they can enrol.

As the course is taught and assessed in English, applicants must have a good command of spoken and written English. We do not enforce testing but suggest a minimum British Council IELTS grade requirement of 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.

Fees overview:

- › **Annual enrolment fee for 2027:** £4,444 + VAT
- › **Total fees:** From £13,332 + VAT
- › Fees are to be paid annually prior to course commencement
- › For the first three years of study, the annual enrolment fee applies. If studies are extended, then only a significantly reduced enrolment is payable in years 4 and 5

What's included:

- › **Course attendance:** Full access to all content, including teaching days, practical sessions and online units.
- › **Extensive online resources:** Enjoy comprehensive access to our online materials, from webinars to forums, BSAVA publications and even our formulary.
- › **BSAVA Membership:** Benefit from full BSAVA membership for the duration of your studies.
- › **RCVS Knowledge Membership:** Access the comprehensive RCVS Knowledge Library and all its valuable resources.
- › **Examination fees:** All assessment and examination costs are included.
- › **Academic and pastoral support:** Continuous guidance from our tutoring and mentoring teams throughout your studies.
- › **University registration:** Your registration with Nottingham Trent University is part of the package.
- › **Discounts:** Get reduced rates for BSAVA Events and special prices on BSAVA manuals.

How to apply

Enrolling in the BSAVA Postgraduate Certificate programme is simple, and we're here to guide you, every step of the way.

At the BSAVA we've designed a smooth process to help you join our Postgraduate Certificate programme. You can register anytime during the year, making it convenient to fit your schedule. To secure your place, apply via our website (www.bsava.com/education/postgraduate-certificates). Since places are allocated on a first come first served basis, early application is encouraged.



Let's talk...

If you have any questions or need further support, we're here to help.

Contact us via phone at 01452 726700 or email us at certificate@bsava.com.

You can also check our FAQs for more information at bsava.com/education/education-faqs.

Validated by



Nottingham Trent
University

BSA'A

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