<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1. Awarding institution</th>
<th>The Royal Veterinary College</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2. Teaching institution</td>
<td>The Royal Veterinary College (University of London)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Programme accredited by</td>
<td>The Royal Veterinary College (University of London) &amp; Approval to deliver the FdSc Veterinary Nursing course has been granted by The Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Final award</td>
<td>Foundation Degree in Veterinary Nursing or BSc (Hons) Veterinary Nursing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Programme Title</td>
<td>Foundation Degree in Veterinary Nursing (FdSc VN) or BSc (Hons) Veterinary Nursing (BSc VN)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Date of First Intake</td>
<td>September 2004 (FdScVN), September 2008 (BSc VN)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Frequency of Intake</td>
<td>Annually in September</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Duration and Mode(s) of Study</td>
<td>Three years full-time (FdSc VN), Four years full-time (BSc VN)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Timing of Examination Board meetings</td>
<td>After each examination period in April/May and November/December</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. Date of Last Quinquennial Review</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. Date of Next Quinquennial Review</td>
<td>2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12. UCAS code</td>
<td>D310 (FdSc VN), D313 (BSc VN)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13. JACS Code</td>
<td>D310</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14. Relevant QAA subject benchmark group(s)</td>
<td>Foundation Degree Benchmark Statement 6th Draft of the VN Benchmarks</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

15. Reference points
Documents which have informed this programme include:
- RCVS VN Syllabus and the LANTRA National Occupational Standards
- VN Benchmarks

16a. Educational aims of FdSc VN programme
The broad aims of the Foundation Degree in Veterinary Nursing are to:
- Produce a safe, competent and reflective Veterinary Nurse who is eligible for admission to the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons Veterinary Nurse Register
- Produce a critical thinking practitioner with extensive knowledge, who can contribute to the standing of the Veterinary Nursing profession through subject-specific preparation to Foundation Degree level
- Produce Veterinary Nurses with a wider range of skills, enabling them to work in a variety of roles within Veterinary practice

16b. Educational aims of BSc VN programme
The broad aims of the programme reflect both its academic and professional nature that will equip graduates for employment as Veterinary Nurses who will be:
- Safe, competent, reflective practitioners who will be eligible for entry onto the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons' Register of Veterinary Nurses.
- Critical thinking individuals who can enhance the status of the Veterinary Nursing Profession by subject-specific education to BSc (Hons) level.
At the end of the programme students will be to:
- Provide a sound foundation in veterinary sciences which contribute to the theory and effective practice of veterinary nursing and veterinary care.
- Promote self-awareness and reflection on own practice allowing experiential learning and improvement in practice.
- Participate in multi-disciplinary approaches to veterinary care.
- Develop critical thinking, analysis, problem solving and decision-making skills.
- Promote coping strategies for change in current veterinary environments.
- Promote independent learning, assisting the individual to continued personal and professional development.

17a. Programme outcomes - the programme offers opportunities for students to achieve and demonstrate the following learning outcomes
## Foundation Degree in Veterinary Nursing

### Knowledge and understanding
At the end of the Foundation Degree programme the student is able to:
- Demonstrate critical understanding of Veterinary Nursing practice through the implementation of general nursing care
- Possess an extensive and integrated knowledge and understanding of Veterinary Nursing
- Show insight into current developments at the forefront of areas of Veterinary Nursing
- Understand those judgements employed by Veterinary Nurses and other professional colleagues
- Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of professional, ethical and moral responsibilities of Veterinary Nurses
- With minimal guidance, resolve Veterinary Nursing problems using appropriate knowledge and skills

### Teaching/learning methods
Students learn knowledge and understanding through attendance at lectures, seminars, workshops and through a variety of directed and self-directed learning activities and through placement time.

### Assessment
Assessed by coursework, clinical assessment, examination and report writing

### B. Cognitive (thinking) skills
At the end of the programme the student can:
1. Demonstrate a comprehensive repertoire of Veterinary Nursing skills
2. Apply clinical judgements needed for practice as a Listed Veterinary Nurse
3. Extend Nursing Skills to include an area of specialised Veterinary Nursing
4. Interact with colleagues, clients, patients and members of the multi-disciplinary team, in a manner commensurate with a registered Veterinary Nurse
5. Organise the Veterinary Nursing care of patients, from admission
6. Apply an effective repertoire of employability skills including communication, IT, interpersonal skills, numeracy and organisation skills to Veterinary Nursing practice
7. Utilise reflective skills to identify and address personal learning needs.
8. Demonstrate leadership in tackling and solving problems.

### Teaching/learning methods
Students learn cognitive skills through problem solving, case studies, reflection, role modelling.

### Assessment
Assessed by coursework, clinical assessment, examination and report writing.

### C. Practical skills
At the end of the programme the student can:
Demonstrate a comprehensive repertoire of Veterinary Nursing skills, in line with those produced in the Foundation Degree Benchmarks and the LANTRA National Occupational Standards for Veterinary Nursing

### Teaching/learning methods
Students learn practical skills through demonstration, observation, doing, feedback, role modelling, experimentation

### Assessment
Assessed by clinical assessment, practical examinations, to include horse handling by DOPS (Directly Observed Procedural Skills), completion of evidence for National Occupational Standards, and report writing.
### D. Key skills

- Communication
- Information Technology
- Interpersonal Skills
- Numeracy
- Organisational Skills
- Effective Learning
- Personal and professional learning needs

#### Teaching/learning methods

Recognition, group work and exercises, structured learning, practical work, reflection

#### Assessment

Assessed through reflective web logs and placement feedback development, coursework, clinical assessment and examination

### 17b. Programme outcomes - the programme offers opportunities for students to achieve and demonstrate the following learning outcomes:

#### BSc (Hons) Veterinary Nursing

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A. Knowledge and understanding of:</th>
<th>Teaching/learning methods</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Theoretical concepts underpinning professional Veterinary Nursing practice and nursing knowledge</td>
<td>Students learn knowledge and understanding through doing, reading, listening, acting, constructing and presenting and evaluating existing methods of study.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anatomical, biomedical and physiological principles related animal health and caring</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research processes and evidence-based practice</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current issues in Veterinary Nursing and the requirements of the professional role of the nurse</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Specialist areas of Veterinary Nursing</td>
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<tr>
<td>Major issues affecting veterinary practice</td>
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<tr>
<td>Leadership skills</td>
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</table>

#### B. Cognitive (thinking) skills

- Carry out procedures for a range of professional situations and problems
- Recognise the need for an holistic approach to nursing practice
- Identify and classify principles and ideas in new texts and situations
- Integrate concepts in support of a well-structured argument
- Integrate theory with professional practice
- Evaluate theory, process, solutions and outcomes critically and effectively
- Application of appropriate knowledge and skills; at the threshold of professional competence

#### Teaching/learning methods

Students learn cognitive skills through application, analysis, synthesis, evaluation and problem solving

#### Assessment

Students’ cognitive skills are assessed by: coursework, unseen exam, work report, reflective journal, performance, dissertation and peer review

#### C. Practical skills

- Selection of appropriate Veterinary Nursing interventions
- Analysis and interpretation of data
- Demonstrate leadership in tackling and solving problems
- Competently teach and assess junior students in basic care
- Competently demonstrate a repertoire of nursing skills (ref RCVS level 3)

#### Teaching/learning methods

Students learn practical skills through doing, acting, constructing and presenting

#### Assessment

Students’ practical skills are assessed by: practical examination, observation, internal verification, peer review
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Diploma &amp; National Occupational Standards 2010</th>
<th>Communicate effectively with clients, colleagues and others</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>D. Graduate skills</td>
<td>Teaching/learning methods Students learn graduate skills through doing, reading, listening, constructing, evaluating and problem solving</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Engage effectively in independent roles</td>
<td>Assessment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participate in professional debate</td>
<td>Students’ key skills are assessed by:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Produce detailed critiques and coherent project reports</td>
<td>Coursework, work report, reflective web logs, dissertation and peer review</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Confident oral presentations in a wide range of contexts</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adopt a range of specialist numerical and mathematical skills relevant to Veterinary Nursing and research</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Utilise a wide range of Information Technology skills appropriate to the context of Veterinary Nursing</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Identify and manage own learning needs</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Evaluate learning achieved through reflective processes</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Effective learning in both professional and academic settings</td>
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<tr>
<td>Demonstrate team building, leadership and assessing skills</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

18. Programme structures and requirements, levels, modules, credits and awards

Professional Development & Clinical Skills I, II and III
Study & time management skills
Finding information & IT skills
Referencing and report writing
National Occupational Standards
Clinical skills

Year 1
Clinical Nursing Practice I
Introduction to animal behaviour
Animal housing and hospitalisation
Handling and restraint
Patient assessment
Introduction to nursing techniques
Nutrition
Breeds and Breeding
Basic nursing care of common exotic and other companion animals
Dose calculations
Administration of medicines

Clinical Nursing Practice II
Communication and record keeping
Reception Skills
Hospital Hygiene
Health & Safety – working safely in the practice
Preparation and assisting with veterinary procedures
Aims and principles of First Aid
Common First Aid situations
Bandaging and first Aid techniques

Veterinary Nursing Applied Science I & II
Cells & Tissues
Body fluids
Skeletal System
Muscles
Integument
Nervous System
Special senses
Cells & Tissues & Body fluids disease
Musculo- Skeletal diseases
Diseases of the Integument
Diseases of the Nervous System
Diseases of the Special senses
Cardio-Respiratory System
Digestive System
Urinary system
Endocrine System
Reproductive system
Genetics & Embryology
Blood & Circulatory System
Cardio - Respiratory disease
Gastrointestinal disease
Urogenital disease
Endocrine disease
Genetics & Embryology
Blood & Circulatory System disease

Year 2
Emergency & Critical Care Nursing / Anaesthesia
Fluid Therapy
Monitoring the critical patient
Intensive nursing techniques
Triage and CPR
Monitoring
Equipment including monitoring equipment
Drugs & Pain management
Emergencies
Anaesthesia of different species

Year 2
Diagnostic Techniques
Laboratory Health & Safety & equipment
Diagnostic test methods
Parasitology
Applied Microbiology
Taking radiographs, positioning
Developing & processing
Contrast techniques
Other techniques: MRI, CT
Ultrasoundography
Radiography of different species
Endoscopy

Year 3
Applied Nursing Care
Nursing process and models of nursing
Applied nursing care to surgical & medical conditions
Preparation for surgical procedures
Post operative care
Dispensing of medications & Drug groups
Legal and professional responsibilities of dispensing
Pharmacodynamics & Pharmacokinetics
Running a surgical theatre
Schedule III techniques

Year 3
Professional Practice
Running a business
Basic accountancy (VAT, invoices etc.)
Staff management
Introduction to research & Literature searches
How to research using different sources – internet, library etc.
Intro to evidence based veterinary medicine, role of clinical trials
Legislation affecting the veterinary professional
Ethical & Professional issues
Animal Welfare issues

Year 4 (BScVN)
Professional Studies
Research Methods
Final Year Project
Elective modules:
Entrepreneurship and Business Planning
Pathology
Teaching & Assessment
Pharmacology
Or a Graduate Diploma elective module
Emergency and Critical Care Nursing incorporating Fluid Therapy
Surgical Nursing incorporating Wound Management
Medical Nursing

Foundation Degree in Veterinary Nursing (Years One, Two & Three)
& BSc (Hons) Veterinary Nursing (All Years)
Year One (Level 4)
Professional Development & Clinical Skills I

Clinical Nursing Practice I
Clinical Nursing Practice II
Veterinary Nursing Applied Science I
Veterinary Nursing Applied Science II

Year Two (Level 5)
Professional Development & Clinical Skills II
Anaesthesia/Emergency and Critical Care
Diagnostic Techniques

Year Three (Level 5)
Professional Development & Clinical Skills III
Applied Nursing Care
Professional Practice

Year Four (Level 6)
Professional Studies (L6) 20
Research Methods (L6) 20
Final Year Project (L6) 60
20 Credits from Elective Module (L6) 20

Total Credits (All) 360
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Elective Modules</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Anaesthesia incorporating Analgesia</td>
<td>(L6) 20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emergency and Critical Care Nursing incorporating Fluid Therapy</td>
<td>(L6) 20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surgical Nursing incorporating Wound Management</td>
<td>(L6) 20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diagnostic Imaging</td>
<td>(L6) 20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical Nursing</td>
<td>(L6) 20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Entrepreneurship and Business Planning</td>
<td>(L6) 20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pathology</td>
<td>(L6) 20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teaching and Assessment</td>
<td>(L6) 20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pharmacology</td>
<td>(L6) 20</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>19. Work Placement Requirements</strong></td>
<td>2100 hours over 60 weeks during the first 3 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(B VetMed and FdSc only)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**ASSESSMENT**

Please refer to the Award and Assessment Regulations

| 20. Any requirements to be completed to permit entry to the examination |
| 21. Marking Criteria                                                   |
| 22. Allocation of Marks                                                |
| 23. Any additional requirements                                        |
| 24. Requirements to Pass Overall                                       |
| 25. Consequences of Failure                                            |
| 26. Classification                                                     |
| 27. Disclosure of Marks                                                |
| 28. Dates of Examinations                                              |
| 29. Date of production/revision                                        | March 2013 |