

# Positive Puppy and Dog Training

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## Companion Dog Class Outline

The course aims to give owners the knowledge and skill to manage their dog successfully in and out of the classroom environment. The course also seeks to make owners aware of their responsibilities as a dog owner and how they can best care for their dog.

This course develops the skills that puppies who have attended puppy classes have learned and is also suitable for beginner-level older dogs.

Classes will be a mixture of demonstrations, short class talks, owner/dog practice and socialisation with other dogs and people.

Owners will receive an information pack on their first week.

### Short Class Talks

Legal Responsibilities for Dog Owners

Preventing Separation Anxiety

Basic health care: eyes, ears, teeth, nails, coat care

### Exercises

#### Attention to name and recall

*We will be exploring ways of encouraging dogs to respond to their names and pay attention to you, we will use these exercises to develop and practice recalls.*

#### Walking in a controlled manner

*We will practice how to encourage and reward your dog for walking nicely on the lead, rather than pulling you along.*

#### Leave it

*You will learn how to teach your dog to leave things alone that you do not want him or her to pick up. We develop this skill to include moving objects such as a dropped piece of food or a ball.*

#### Control through gates/doorways

*This is an exercise about self-control, it has nothing to do with a person going first, it is about encouraging dogs to be able to restrain impulsive behaviour such as charging through a doorway and is a useful life skill to develop. It also helps to keep your dog safe!*

**Play with toys**

*Not only is playing with your dog fun, but it is very important for ensuring that your dog is stimulated enough and will help you to develop and maintain a happy relationship and bond. Developing a strong desire to play also helps with exercises such as the recall.*

**Handling/examination**

*All dogs will need to go to the vet at some point in their life or maybe to the groomers; teaching dogs to accept being handling and looked at is an important activity for them.*

**Basic positions: sit, down, stand**

*You will be shown how to teach your dog to sit, down and stand, and to maintain those positions.*

**Stay**

*In this class, we aim to teach the dogs to stay where they are asked to.*

**Please note:** We do not allow the use of choke chains - we have a supply of flat collars that you can borrow for class if you do have one available. Please also avoid using a flexi-lead in class, as they are not suitable for training.