

# Level 5 Diploma in Canine Hydrotherapy

Course Brochure





## Welcome...

The accredited Level 5 Diploma in Canine Hydrotherapy is the premier hydrotherapy award in the UK and is a fully licensed ABC Awards course. We offer you a training pathway to significantly progress your hydrotherapy service and become an advanced practitioner.

At K9HS we help each dog overcome their mobility and fitness challenges using hydrotherapy and physiotherapy treatment. We care about building a therapeutic bond to gain the dog's trust, so they work actively with us in a proprioceptive enriched, calm and connected way. Current practice is about devising an individual treatment plan to meet each dog's specific needs, using treatment techniques that are effective, caring and interactive with the dog.

Our instructors are small animal Veterinary Physiotherapists and specialists in hydrotherapy, with a shared belief that every dog deserves the best treatment available. We are excited to be a part of your career journey as together we can make a real difference.

We believe every dog deserves the best treatment available so they can enjoy a lifetime of special moments with their human family as happy and healthy dogs.

# Advancing practice.....

This part time one year course will transform your practice and is open to hydrotherapists, animal therapists, chartered physiotherapists, veterinary physiotherapists, veterinary nurses, veterinary surgeons and individuals with relevant qualifications in the animal science field. The L5 Diploma is aimed at professionals who would like to further advance their hydrotherapy clinical skills, critical appraisal abilities, professional and management skills to offer a leading service.

The Course Principal is Barbara Houlding, the first UK Accredited Clinical Educator in Veterinary Physiotherapy (awarded by the Chartered Society of Physiotherapy) and holder of the 2017 CHA Award for outstanding service to the canine hydrotherapy industry. She delivers the course with her amazing team of Veterinary Physiotherapists at three different hydrotherapy and rehabilitation centres.

This provides you with the ultimate training experience with the highest calibre of teaching, mentoring and supported instruction using state of the art facilities and fantastic study resources. We understand that everyone has their own pace and preferred style of learning and we work with you to create a positive and exciting learning environment.



# Empowering your study decisions...

Unit 1: Overview of current small animal aquatic and hydrotherapy

Unit 2: Assessment, functional anatomy and biomechanics in the musculoskeletal, orthopaedic and neurological small animal patient

Unit 3: Advanced treatment techniques for the out-patient

Unit 4: Pain management, in-patient care and the underwater treadmill

Unit 5: Advanced treatment techniques in the complex client

Unit 6: Professional, business and water management for the successful service

We deliver a course that meets your individual needs and values your skills and experiences. Our blended format covers all aspects of aquatic and hydrotherapy in the small animal including the in-patient, the out-patient and the elite animal athlete.

The course consists of six units, each containing an intensive clinical placement (3 or 4 days) to develop your clinical “hands on” treatment skills. This is supported by the K9HS online learning forum packed full of fantastic resources for you to use whenever it suits you. This long distance study element allows you to choose when and where you wish to study to fit in with your work and home commitments.

The Level 5 Diploma programme includes a free First Aid certificate for the advanced first aid instruction you receive. We also offer you the three ABC Awards Underwater Treadmill units (part of their Level 3 Diploma) absolutely free. Our advanced course covers all the learning outcomes and assessment criteria, alongside our advanced instruction on UWT treatment techniques.

# Clinical placements for hands-on experience.....

You will be supported in a positive, friendly and stimulating learning environment to enhance your clinical competencies and reasoning. This is facilitated by exposure to a diverse clinical case load in professional clinics held at our two leading centres:

1. K9HS, Earl Soham, Suffolk
2. Active Balance Rehabilitation Centre, Hinckley, Leics

The Diploma uses assessment methods that include set tasks that you complete with each unit (60% of total mark) enabling you to build your overall mark as you progress through the course. You have a final practical assessment (20%) and written examination (20%) at the end of the course. The successful candidate will be awarded:

- 🐾 ABC Awards Level 5 Diploma certificate and course transcripts
- 🐾 K9HS Level 5 Diploma certificate with your grade and study hours
- 🐾 K9HS First Aid certificate
- 🐾 ABC Awards Level 3 Treadmill units course transcripts
- 🐾 K9HS CPD certificate for your UWT study





## FAQs

### Who is eligible for the L5 Diploma?

Hydrotherapists who hold the ABC Awards level 3 Certificate / Diploma in hydrotherapy for small animals or an industry related qualification, for example; veterinary surgeon, chartered physiotherapist, veterinary physiotherapist, animal therapist, vet nurse etc. Candidates will be considered if they hold other qualifications which are deemed to be equivalent to the qualifications referred to above. Each application will be looked at on an individual basis and recognised prior learning (RPL) is in place for this award.

All assessments are completed in English.

### Who are K9HS?

K9HS is an established training provider and represents the gold standard in hydrotherapy and rehabilitation training. As the leaders in this industry we have the most rigorous regular quality assurance (QA) and checking system in place to verify and maintain our high standards in both our clinical and training services. As a centre of excellence we are proud of our awarded status as an outstanding training centre by ABC Awards.

### Who are ABC Awards:

ABC Awards are a leading UK national awarding organisation with a long-established reputation for high quality support and services to the educational sector. K9HS is an approved ABC Awards centre and also part of their Quality Licence Scheme (QLS); we deliver both their regulated Level 3 hydrotherapy courses and the advanced Level 5 Diploma in Canine Hydrotherapy. The Level 5 Diploma is the top award in canine hydrotherapy and K9HS are the only UK course providers.

### Who has accredited this course?

The Institute of Registered Veterinary and Animal Physiotherapists (IRVAP) is a professional association that represents a group of veterinary professionals working in animal therapy and healthcare. They are committed to promoting best practice for the animal patient and owner client by linking a sound scientific knowledge base to current clinical practice. Their accreditation panel offers assurance of high quality education that is current and relevant for those working in this sector.



## How to apply.....

If you have any queries or would like an application form please email  
[courses@k9hydroservices.co.uk](mailto:courses@k9hydroservices.co.uk)

Our course registrar would be delighted to hear from you.

In addition to submitting a completed online application form you are requested to send copies of the following documentation:

- 🐾 Qualification certificates
- 🐾 Membership certificates of your professional bodies (e.g. IRVAP, MRCVS, CHA, NARCH, ACPAT NAVP, etc)
- 🐾 English language qualifications you hold (if relevant)

We hope you will join us during this fulfilling stage of your career and look forward to working with you to achieve your highest goals.

Barbara

*Barbara Houlding GradDipPhys, MScVetPhys, MCSP, MCHA, FIRVAP*

*ACPAT Chartered Physiotherapist and Veterinary Physiotherapist*

*K9HS Principal*





Canine hydrotherapy enabling happy, healthy dogs to enjoy a lifetime of special moments with their owners