**BVetMed Programme Specification**
**Applies to Cohort Commencing 2017**

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| **1. Awarding institution** | Royal Veterinary College |
| **2. Teaching institution** | Royal Veterinary College |
| **3. Programme accredited by** | Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons (RCVS) - full recognition<br>European Association of Establishments of Veterinary Education (EAEVE) - full accreditation<br>American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) - full accreditation<br>Australasian Veterinary Boards Council (AVBC) |
| **4. Final award** | Bachelor of Veterinary Medicine |
| **5. Programme Title** | Veterinary Medicine |
| **6. Date of First Intake** | 1791 |
| **7. Frequency of Intake** | Annually in September |
| **8. Duration and Mode(s) of Study** | Full-time<br>D100: 5 years<br>D101: 6 years (with intercalated BSc)<br>D102 Graduate entry route: 4 years<br>D190: Gateway entry route: 6 years<br><br>Note: *BSc in Animal Health & Disease.*<br>The BSc in Animal Health & Disease is offered as a degree to students who wish to leave the programme and have achieved an appropriate standard in the first three years of the BVetMed and who have met any other requirements specified in the Regulations for that degree. |
| **9. Timing of Examination Board meetings** | First Year BVetMed: June/July<br>Second Year BVetMed: June/July<br>Third year BVetMed: April/May<br>Fourth year BVetMed: Dec/Jan<br>Finals: June/July<br>Gateway: June/July<br>G year: June/July<br>D101; BSc exam board annually in June |
| **10 Date of Last Periodic Review** | 2016/17 |
| **11. Date of Next Periodic Review** | 2023/24 |
| **12. Entry requirements** | See RVC website |
| **13. UCAS code** | D100 (five years)<br>D101 (six years)<br>D102 (Graduate Accelerated 4 years)<br>D190 (Gateway) |
| **14. JACS Code** | D100 (five years)<br>D101 (six years)<br>D102 (Graduate accelerated 4 years)<br>D190 (Gateway) |
| **15. Relevant QAA subject benchmark** | Veterinary Science |

**16. Reference points**

i. Veterinary Surgeons Act (1966)
ii. Report of the Committee of Enquiry into Veterinary Research ("Selborne") (1997)
iii. QAA Benchmark Statement, Veterinary Science (2002)
iv. Veterinary Education and Training: a Framework for 2010 and beyond. (RCVS, 2002)
v. EU Directive 2005/36/EC (2005), as amended by Directive 2013/55/EU (2013)
vi. Report of the North American Veterinary Medical Education Consortium (NAVMEC) (2011)
vii. Accreditation Policies and Procedures of the AVMA Council on Education (Mar 2014)
viii. RCVS standards and procedures for the accreditation of veterinary degrees, incl RCVS Day One Competences & RCVS EMS Policy and Guidance (Feb 2015)

**17. Educational aims of programme**

- To develop the knowledge, skills and attributes to promote and enhance animal health and welfare, and public health through scholarship, scientific and professional endeavour, and veterinary practice
- To equip students with the knowledge, skills and attributes to meet the current and future challenges of all aspects of the veterinary profession.
- To provide a learning environment that appreciates diversity, promotes excellence in learning and teaching, and embeds a desire for life-long learning
- To satisfy the requirements determined by the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons, the American Veterinary Medical Association and the Veterinary Directives of the European Union

**18. Programme outcomes - the programme offers opportunities for students to achieve and demonstrate the following learning outcomes.**

**At the time of graduation students should, to a standard appropriate for a new veterinary graduate, be able to**:

1. Describe the normal structure and function of animals including principles of homeostasis and explain the aetiology, pathophysiology and pathogenesis of common diseases that affect them.
2. Explain the key components that constitute primary and preventative healthcare and advise on, and implement, recommended prophylaxis, nutrition and husbandry programmes in order to improve animal care, prevent disease and inform client education.
3. Advise on animal management and welfare, and safeguard human, animal and environmental health (One Health); including principles of biosecurity, food safety, risk assessment & mitigation, zoonosis and surveillance.
4. Recognise, prevent and diagnose diseases and disorders of animals. Be able to select and interpret appropriate diagnostic tests and formulate a treatment plan; considering pain management, client financial status & patient referral when indicated.
5. Develop sound clinical reasoning skills including a logical problem solving approach in order to effectively solve clinical problems and make decisions.
6. Demonstrate technical and procedural competence
7. Apply scientific principles, method and knowledge to clinical practice and research. Proficiently search for and critically analyse literature and use evidence-based medicine to influence clinical decision-making.
8. Explain how knowledge of the veterinary business environment influences the practice, its team, its clients, marketing and financial management
9. Communicate effectively with the public, colleagues and other professionals both verbally and in writing; including constructing and updating clinical records and correspondence, using appropriate terminology for the audience concerned.
10. Explain the principles and behaviours that underpin professionalism, teamwork and ethical decision-making (judgement) and apply these in a veterinary setting.
11. Engage in life-long learning and self-reflection to improve overall competence. Recognise professional limits and seek support when needed.
12. Be able to cope with incomplete information and effectively use information services and information technology.
13. Explain fundamental scientific, pharmacological and medical principles that underpin veterinary medicine
14. Use the principles of anaesthesia to suggest and safely perform an anaesthetic plan, from carrying out an anaesthetic risk assessment through to patient recovery.
15. Understand the relationship between productivity, production systems and economics

**Teaching/learning methods**

In the didactic parts of the course, teaching and learning is based upon:

- whole-class lectures;
- small group tutorials;
- groupwork in directed learning classes;
- computer-assisted learning;
- demonstrations;
- practical work in laboratory and dissection classes;
- practical classes utilising live animals;
- directed and self-directed reading;
- directed and self-directed practice in the Clinical Skills Centre;
- self-evaluation
- animal husbandry placements;
- placements in veterinary practices;
- production of project reports.

In the final one and a half years of the course, teaching and learning is based upon:

- observation, discussion and practical experience as a member of the clinical team in the College's hospitals, and in clinical enterprises in which the College is a collaborating partner;
- placements in veterinary practices;
- attendance at lectures, seminars and workshops;
- completion of a major research project.

**Assessment**

- Objective Structured Clinical Examinations (OSCEs) and Directly Observed Procedural Skills (DOPS) to assess your practical clinical competencies and animal handling skills
- Structured oral examinations, which test your integrated understanding of animal structure and function
- In course assessments (poster, presentation, reports)
- Multiple choice questions (MCQs) testing factual knowledge
- Extended matching questions (EMQs) and case studies testing clinical reasoning
- Problem-solving questions
- Essay questions testing understanding, analysis, synthesis and critical thinking.
- Research projects
- Continuous assessment in the clinical environment in the areas of professional activity, practical skills and clinical reasoning and application of knowledge.
- 12 weeks of placements (AHEMS) on farms and in other animal establishments
- 26 weeks of clinical placements (EMS) in veterinary practices and similar settings
- ICT skills test

## 19. Programme structures and requirements, levels, modules, credits and awards

| Gateway Year (Year Zero) | Year One | Year Two | Year Three | Year Four | Year Five |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Animal Handling Proficiency Training and Assessment<br><br>Biology of the Cell<br><br>Inheritance, Genetics and Evolution module<br><br>Development module | Induction<br><br>Introduction to The Whole Animal & to Systems Strands<br>• Locomotor<br>• Principles Of Science<br>• Neurology & Special Senses<br>• Cardiovascular & Respiratory<br>• Urogenital – Renal<br>• Alimentary System<br>• Urogenital – Reproduction<br><br>Population Medicine & Veterinary Public Health (PMVPH)<br><br>Professional Studies<br><br>Integrated Structure & Function Tutorials take place throughout year<br><br>Integrated Concepts<br><br>Assessment | Integrated Structure & Function Tutorials continue in Year 2<br><br>Principles Of Science<br><br>PMVPH<br><br>Lymphoreticular & Haemopoietic<br><br>Cardiovascular & Respiratory<br><br>Professional Studies<br><br>Endocrine<br><br>Assessment | Principles of Science<br><br>Professional Studies<br><br>Alimentary<br><br>Population Medicine & Veterinary Public Health<br><br>Reproduction<br><br>Assessment – Animal Handling Direct observation of procedural skills (DOPS) | Lymphoreticular & Haemopoietic<br><br>Professional Studies<br><br>Urogenital – Renal<br><br>Endocrine<br><br>PMVPH<br><br>Revision<br><br>Examinations | Core & Track 8 – 11<br><br>EMS |
| Christmas Holiday | | | | | |
| Formative examination<br><br>The Moving Animal module<br><br>Integrated Physiology 1 module<br><br>Animal Husbandry module<br><br>Lambing placement | Principles Of Science<br><br>PMVPH<br><br>Professional Studies<br><br>Alimentary System | Principles Of Science<br><br>Professional Studies<br><br>Urogenital – Renal<br><br>Locomotor<br><br>Urogenital – Reproduction<br><br>Skin<br><br>PMVPH | Principles Of Science<br><br>Professional Studies<br><br>Reproduction<br><br>Cardiovascular & Respiratory<br><br>Skin | Rotation preparation<br><br>Objective structured clinical examination (OSCE)<br><br>Revision<br><br>Resit examinations<br><br>Core Rotations 1<br><br>Core Rotations 2<br><br>EMS | Core & Track 12 – 14<br><br>EMS |
| Easter Holiday / Extra-Mural Placements | | | | | |
| Problem, Definition and Investigation Topics<br><br>Library Projects Revision<br><br>Summative Examinations (April) | Neurology & Special Senses<br><br>Principles Of Science<br><br>Professional Studies<br><br>PMVPH<br><br>Assessment – End Of Year Examinations | Professional Studies<br><br>Integrated Concepts – Themed Group Work<br><br>Assessment – End Of Year Examinations | Assessment<br><br>Professional Studies<br><br>Principles of Science<br><br>Locomotor<br><br>Neurology & Special Senses<br><br>Lymphoreticular & Haemopoietic | Core & Track 3<br><br>Core & Track 4<br><br>Core & Track 5<br><br>EMS | OSCE<br><br>EMS<br><br>Electives<br><br>Professional Studies<br><br>Revision<br><br>Finals |
| Summer Holiday / Extra-Mural Placements<br>Re-sit Examinations | | | | Core & Track 6<br><br>Core & Track 7<br><br>Core & Track 8<br>EMS | |

**GRADUATE YEAR**

The programme for the Graduate Year is as follows:

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| Opportunity to do 6 weeks of Extra mural studies (EMS)<br>Induction<br>Principles of Animal Form and Function<br>Animal Husbandry<br>Infections and Responses<br>Examination |
| **Christmas** |
| Principles of Animal Form and Function<br>Animal Husbandry<br>Infections and Responses<br>Examination<br>Opportunity to do EMS |
| **Easter** |
| Principles of Animal Form and Function<br>Infections and Responses<br>Private Study<br>Examinations<br>Orals / Results |

**20. Work Placement Requirements**

**Animal Husbandry ExtraMural Studies**

Students must complete 12 weeks of Animal Husbandry ExtraMural Studies before entry to Year 3 of the course, comprising:

- 2 weeks on a lambing enterprise
- 2 weeks on a dairy cattle farm
- 2 weeks at a commercial pig operation
- 2 weeks of equine experience
- 4 weeks of their choice.

*Gateway*
From the 12 week total described for BVetMed, a minimum of 6 weeks Animal Husbandry ExtraMural Studies is to be completed by the end of BVetMed Year 1 (which includes the summer vacation period), including a minimum of 2 weeks lambing experience to be undertaken at the Easter vacation block in Gateway Year 0. The remaining weeks are to be completed by the end of the summer vacation in BVetMed Year 2.

**Clinical ExtraMural Studies**

Students must complete 26 weeks of Clinical ExtraMural Studies (EMS) during Years 3 to 5. Detailed regulations governing Clinical EMS are contained in the ClinEMS Student Guidelines.

**21. Assessment** See associated marking schemes

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| **22. Date of production/revision** | 23/02/2017 |