This standard covers developing, implementing and evaluating programmes to address undesirable behaviour in dogs. The emphasis of the canine behaviourist is one of facilitating behaviour change within the canine/human relationship in the dogs’ normal environment and advising and instructing the owner/handler in behaviour modification techniques and canine communication and psychology.

Users of this standard will need to ensure that the training practices recommended by them by way of consultation reflect up to date information, relevant training techniques, policies and procedures. They will work within the limits of their authority, accreditation, qualification and expertise of training, and have knowledge and experience of rehabilitating dogs with behavioural problems, supported by suitable canine specific academic studies which are humane and evidence based. They should have extensive experience in dog training and dog handling, encompassing many varied breeds and types within all age ranges.

As a canine behaviourist you will need to be aware of your own limitations and ensure that you meet the legal responsibilities for duty of care under animal health and welfare legislation.

This standard is suitable for appropriately trained / accredited and qualified canine behaviourists, who have the relevant practical experience in dealing with the canine species supported by training and education in canine related behaviours and practical dog training techniques.
LANCTB3
Develop, implement and evaluate programmes to address undesirable behaviour in dogs

**Performance criteria**

*You must be able to:*

- **P1** comply with relevant animal health and welfare legislation, national legislation, local policies and codes of practice relating to dogs at all times
- **P2** assess and make provision for the health and welfare needs of the dog
- **P3** manage and control a suitable and appropriate location to assess and discuss the behaviour
- **P4** obtain and interpret relevant information about the dog and possible causes of the behaviour using a range of appropriate sources
- **P5** continually assess and evaluate the relationship between the dog and owner/handler within the normal environment, including household or environmental dynamics, for suitability to undertake behaviour modification
- **P6** assess the dog’s physical condition and emotional state, with consideration to the life stages of the dog (i.e. puppy, juvenile, adult, senior), before and during the consultation process, recognising signs of stress, fear, aggression, pain, conflict and avoidance, and respond appropriately
- **P7** handle and interact with the dog humanely and safely and in a manner that allows assessment, temperament testing and behaviour modification, to be carried out safely and effectively, and that avoids creating behaviour which may give rise to welfare concerns
- **P8** develop a structured programme of behaviour change and training which is specific, measurable, achievable, realistic and targeted (SMART), applying the principles of learning theory to dogs and humans
- **P9** select the most appropriate behaviour change and training methods and resources, for the particular dog, owner/handler and desired outcome, with due consideration of current scientific evidence, previous experience, humane practices and legislation
- **P10** discuss and agree the programme with the owner/handler and obtain informed consent prior to commencing the behaviour change and training programme
- **P11** ensure owner/handler understands the importance of their role in achieving and maintaining the desired behaviour once it is reached
- **P12** manage and control a suitable and appropriate location and undertake dynamic risk assessment throughout the consultation and behaviour change and training programme
- **P13** implement behaviour change and training programme in accordance with relevant health and safety legislation, risk assessment requirements, codes of practice and any other policies or procedures relevant to the programme or location
- **P14** maintain the safety and welfare of dog and all persons present at all times and be continually aware of any factors outside of your control
LANCTB3
Develop, implement and evaluate programmes to address undesirable behaviour in dogs

Performance criteria

P15 demonstrate to the owner/handler how to implement the programme of behaviour change and training, including the safe use of specific equipment where appropriate, to ensure the health, welfare and safety of the dog is maintained

P16 recognise different learning styles of the dog and modify programme accordingly

P17 recognise, understand and act upon displayed stress indicators of the owner/handler, including the relevance of non-verbal communication

P18 monitor the effect of the behaviour change and training programme on the dog’s health and welfare and recognise any detrimental effects

P19 monitor the dog and owner/handler’s progress towards achievement of the behaviour change and training programme and encourage, motivate and support the owner/handler to achieve and maintain the desired outcome

P20 encourage the owner/handler to provide support and feedback to the dog to develop an effective relationship

P21 continually evaluate progress towards achievement of the behaviour change and training programme and adjust as necessary

P22 recognise when the desired outcome of the behaviour change and training programme is not achievable and take appropriate action

P23 recognise own limitations and refer to an appropriate professional when necessary e.g. alternative canine behaviourist, veterinary surgeon

P24 communicate effectively both verbally and in writing with others involved in the behaviour change and training programme and produce reports where required

P25 ensure appropriate records are maintained and stored as required

P26 maintain professional and ethical conduct and work within the limits of your own authority, expertise, training, competence, experience and relevant legislation

P27 maintain professional competence by undertaking regular Continuing Professional Development (CPD) and work within the requirements of the relevant professional organisation
LANCTB3

Develop, implement and evaluate programmes to address undesirable behaviour in dogs

Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

K1 your responsibilities under relevant animal health and welfare, and other canine related legislation and codes of practice, and the legal limitations of the Veterinary Surgeons Act (1966) with regard to diagnosis and treatment of disease or injury

K2 how the welfare needs of the dogs you engage with may be assessed and addressed

K3 how to obtain and interpret information about the dog and assess any factors that may affect behaviour

K4 possible medical causes for dog behavioural issues and the importance of seeking a veterinary diagnosis

K5 how to recognise and relate behavioural issues in dogs and the cause and effect training can have relating to the health and welfare or behaviour of the dog

K6 the importance of care, management and husbandry of dogs in their normal environment and the effect this can have on behaviour

K7 what to consider when assessing the suitability of the dog to undertake a programme of behaviour change and training including condition, needs, capabilities and interests

K8 the importance of assessing the capabilities and potential of the owner/handler to achieve and maintain the desired behaviour

K9 the importance of maintaining an understanding of current research into evolutionary history and changes associated with the role and purpose of dogs in society

K10 natural and normal behaviour patterns of dogs, including social behaviour and how dogs communicate with humans, other dogs and other species

K11 behavioural, emotional and physical development stages of dogs and the importance of critical periods of learning

K12 the effect of previous experiences on dog behaviours, the cause and effect of latent learned behaviour, nature versus nurture

K13 breed specific behaviours and traits and their potential effect on training and the behaviours that could be presented as a result of such training

K14 psychopharmacology theories and mode of interaction of major classes of drugs used in clinical animal behaviour that may have been administered to the dog, e.g. by a veterinary surgeon or other professional

K15 the role of nutrition and pheremones on dog behaviour

K16 how dogs learn and the physical, psychological and environmental factors that affect learning, including the dogs lifestyle with the owner/handler within their normal environment

K17 the principles and techniques used in behaviour change and training and the skills relevant to achievement of the desired outcome
LANCTB3
Develop, implement and evaluate programmes to address undesirable behaviour in dogs

Knowledge and understanding

K18 how to plan and implement a programme of behaviour change and training to meet objectives which are specific, measurable, achievable, realistic and targeted (SMART)

K19 the different methods used to train dogs and what to consider when selecting the most appropriate method of training for a particular dog, behaviour, or desired outcome e.g. current scientific evidence, previous experience, humane practices, legislation

K20 the importance of discussing the behaviour change and training programme with the owner/handler and gaining their understanding and agreement to fulfil their obligation to adhere to the programme

K21 the use and potential misuse of available training equipment, the physiological and psychological effect on the dog and its health and welfare and the importance of educating the owner/handler in good practice

K22 the legal, welfare and ethical considerations of the form of training used, the implications of not training in an appropriate manner and the consequences of allowing a dog to be out of control

K23 the use of positive and negative reinforcement and positive and negative punishment and the effects of these approaches on dog behaviour, health and welfare

K24 your responsibilities under relevant health and safety legislation, codes of practice and any other policies or procedures relevant to the programme or location

K25 the importance of carrying out risk assessments prior to and during behaviour modification

K26 the antecedents, triggers and indicators of the cycle of anxiety/stress in dogs

K27 the different forms of aggression within a dog and how to recognise these

K28 suitable methods of safely handling a dog, including when one or more are displaying signs of aggression, with due regard to the welfare of the dog, your own safety and that of other people and other dogs

K29 how to ensure that the welfare of the dog is maintained throughout and that your behaviour or that of others does not cause adverse reactions, fear or distress

K30 how to recognise, evaluate and address behaviour responses throughout behaviour change and training

K31 the importance of continually evaluating all available information prior to and during behaviour modification, or when a dog displays unexpected behaviour

K32 the anatomy and physiology of a dog and how training, equipment and handling of a dog can affect the dog’s behavioural responses

K33 the indicators of stress in dogs

K34 human psychology and its relevance to designing and achieving the behaviour modification
LANCTB3
Develop, implement and evaluate programmes to address undesirable behaviour in dogs

Knowledge and understanding

K35 how to teach, motivate and support owner/handler to achieve and maintain the desired outcome
K36 the reasons why the dog or owner/handler may not be progressing to achieve the desired outcome and how the behaviour change and training programme can be modified to improve its outcomes
K37 the importance of monitoring and evaluating progress and reviewing and revising the behaviour change and training programme
K38 how to recognise when behaviour modification methods may not be appropriate for the dog, handler and the purpose/role of the dog
K39 non verbal communication and the indicators of stress in people and how to respond appropriately
K40 when to and when not to intervene whilst the owner/handler is practicing instruction
K41 how and when to use **test dogs** in behaviour modification and the value of monitoring and interpreting the reaction of the test dog whilst maintaining their health, safety and welfare
K42 the importance of seeking advice and guidance from more experienced professionals, where to obtain professional advice and guidance and the role of professional bodies and associations
K43 the importance of maintaining communication with others involved in the behaviour change and training programme
K44 how to produce **reports** suitable for the intended recipient
K45 the importance and relevance of maintaining accurate records, safe handling and storage of data and the importance of confidentiality and requirements of the Data Protection Act (1998)
K46 the importance of appropriate insurance cover including professional indemnity
K47 your professional responsibilities and the importance of Continuing Professional Development (CPD) to maintain professional competence
LANCTB3
Develop, implement and evaluate programmes to address undesirable behaviour in dogs

**Scope/range**

**Information** to be considered when carrying out an assessment of the dog:

1. life history
2. physical condition and capabilities
3. age and development stage
4. health and medical history, including past and current medication
5. diet
6. reproductive status
7. hormonal stage
8. current level of training and any prior behavior modification undertaken
9. temperament/characteristics/traits
10. breed and parentage
11. motivational drivers and effects
12. environment – living, working, training/learning
13. legislation

**Capabilities and potential** of the handler:

14. physical needs of the owner/handler
15. learning needs of the owner/handler
16. psychological needs of the owner/handler

**Resources:**

17. personnel
18. training aids/equipment
19. handling aids/equipment
20. Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

**Reports** may be for:

21. owner/handler
22. veterinary surgeon
23. legal authority
24. courts
25. insurance companies
LANCTB3
Develop, implement and evaluate programmes to address undesirable behaviour in dogs

**Behaviours**

- be prepared to make difficult decisions and have the confidence to see them through.
- show reliability and resilience in difficult situations
- remain calm and confident, respond logically and decisively in difficult situations
- respond to challenges rationally, with consideration to the emotions of the dog and owner/handler
- manage ambiguity and deal with uncertainty and frustration when working the dog and owner/handler
- manage conflicting pressure and tension during consultation and training of the owner/handler and dog
- resist pressure to make quick decisions where full consideration is needed.
- remain focused and in control of all situations during the consultation and training
- stand firmly by a decision when it is right to do so
- demonstrate sound interpersonal skills

**Glossary**

*Dogs* - All domestic dogs including working dogs

**Sources** of information could include:

- the client
- a third party
- observation
- records

**SMART** objectives:

- Specific - Is the objective well defined and clear? Does it state exactly what is to be achieved?
- Measurable - How will I know when the objective has been achieved? What will success look like?
- Achievable - Is the objective attainable considering the capability of the dog?
- Realistic - Can the outcome be achieved within the availability of resources, knowledge and time?
- Targeted - Does the objective target a specific area for improvement?

**Refer** – includes formal or informal referral to professional body, individual or organisation

**Test Dogs:**

- aid and assist behaviour reformation in other dogs
- provocateur - to identify the trigger threshold (limited use of)
- specially trained, selected, behaviourally stable dogs

**Veterinary Surgeons Act (1966):**
LANCTB3
Develop, implement and evaluate programmes to address undesirable behaviour in dogs

All forms of complementary therapy that involve acts or the practise of veterinary surgery must be undertaken by a veterinary surgeon, subject to any exemption in the Act. At the same time, it is incumbent on veterinary surgeons offering any complementary therapy to ensure that they are adequately trained in its application.

Behavioural treatment of animals is not restricted under the Veterinary Surgeons Act (1966) unless it constitutes the practice of veterinary surgery.

There is no specific exemption order for animal behaviourism and therefore there is no formal jurisdiction to insist upon the involvement of a veterinary surgeon before animal behaviour work is carried out. In many cases, however, animal behaviourists will work on referrals from veterinary surgeons to ensure they are not accused of making a diagnosis of disease or injury (which is restricted to veterinary surgeons).

Links To Other NOS

LANAnC49 - Observe, assess and understand the behaviour of animals
LANCTB4 - Handle and control dogs
LANCTB3
Develop, implement and evaluate programmes to address undesirable behaviour in dogs

Developed by

Version number 2.0

Date Approved October 2014

Indicative review date October 2019

Validity

Status Original

Originating organisation Lantra

Original URN LANCTB3

Relevant occupations Dog training and behaviour; Veterinary paraprofessional

Suite Veterinary Praprofessional Activities; Animal Care and Welfare

Keywords canine; dog; training; behaviour; modification
Overview

This standard covers the safe handling and control of dogs and is suitable for all persons who work professionally with dogs.

Users of this standard will need to ensure that handling practices reflect up to date information, relevant handling techniques used in accordance with the scope and remit of their role and within policies and procedures. They will work within the limits of their authority, accreditation, qualification and expertise of handling, and have knowledge and experience within the given arena of work, supported by suitable canine specific academic studies which are experience based and compassionate.

The handling and control of dogs can in most instances become a dynamic process. This standard will ensure that users will have the necessary skills to be flexible and dynamic in their approach, having due regard to all the aspects of safe control and handling of dogs.

Meeting the legal responsibilities for duty of care under relevant animal health and welfare legislation is of paramount importance.

You will need to be fully aware of the importance of health and safety in connection with this work.
LANCTB4
Handle and control dogs

**Performance criteria**

*You must be able to:*

- **P1** comply with relevant animal health and welfare legislation, national legislation, local policies and codes of practice relating to dogs at all times
- **P2** assess and make dynamic provision for the health and welfare needs of the dog
- **P3** agree and confirm the purpose for which the dog is being handled and the desired outcome of the handling with all parties concerned
- **P4** assess the suitability of the dog to be handled, based on information from a range of appropriate sources
- **P5** assess the dog’s physical condition and emotional state, with consideration to the life stage of the dog (i.e. puppy, juvenile, adult, senior), before and during handling, recognising signs of stress, fear, aggression, pain, conflict and avoidance, and respond appropriately
- **P6** assess the handling and control needs and situation presented and develop a dynamic, specific, measurable, achievable, realistic and targeted (**SMART**) handling plan
- **P7** select the most appropriate handling and control methods and resources, for the particular dog and desired handling outcome, with due consideration of current evidence, previous experience, safe and humane practices and legislation
- **P8** identify how you would deal with any contingencies which may arise, before approaching the dog
- **P9** handle and interact with the dog humanely and safely and in a manner that avoids creating prolonged behaviour giving rise to welfare concerns
- **P10** approach the dog in a way that takes into account the breed and an assessment of the dog’s current and known behaviour patterns
- **P11** approach, handle and control the dog in a way which is likely to promote their co-operation and minimise the possibility of distress or injury
- **P12** fit and use equipment safely, effectively and humanely having regard for the circumstances, the size of the dog, and the purpose of using the equipment
- **P13** ensure that resources are used safely and effectively to safeguard the health and welfare of the dog
- **P14** use handling and control methods safely in accordance with relevant health and safety legislation, risk assessment requirements, codes of practice and any other policies or procedures relevant to the handling technique or location
- **P15** handle dog in a manner which minimises the possibility of risk to the health and safety of the dog, yourself and other animals and people in the environment
- **P16** regularly assess the risks throughout the handling process
- **P17** monitor the dog’s behaviour and response to handling, noting any significant changes and taking appropriate actions
- **P18** monitor the effect of the handling on the dog’s health and welfare and recognise if the handling or a particular part is likely to be detrimental in the short or long term
LANCTB4
Handle and control dogs

Performance Criteria

P19  continually evaluate the handling technique and adjust the method if necessary
P20  recognise when handling the dog may not be appropriate and identify alternative methods of achieving the desired outcome, e.g. a dog fearful of other dogs, or a dog which is reactive to certain situations
P21  recognise own limitations and when to seek assistance
P22  refer to an appropriate professional when necessary e.g. senior handler, canine behaviourist, veterinary surgeon
P23  communicate effectively with others involved in the handling process
P24  ensure appropriate records are maintained and stored as required
P25  maintain professional and ethical conduct and work within the limits of your own authority, expertise, training, competence, experience and relevant legislation
P26  maintain professional competence by undertaking regular Continuing Professional Development (CPD) and work within the requirements of the relevant professional organisation
**Knowledge and understanding**

*You need to know and understand:*

K1 your responsibilities under relevant animal health and welfare, and other canine related legislation and codes of practice, and the legal limitations of the *Veterinary Surgeons Act (1966)* with regard to diagnosis and treatment of disease or injury

K2 how the welfare needs of the dogs you engage with may be dynamically assessed and addressed

K3 the purpose for which the dog is being handled and the desired outcome of the handling

K4 how to obtain and interpret information about the dog and any factors that may affect the handling technique, including temperament and usual behaviour patterns

K5 breed specific behaviours and traits and their potential effect on handling and the behaviours that could be presented as a result of such handling

K6 the principles and techniques used in the handling of dogs, and the skills relevant to the desired goals/handling to be achieved

K7 the different methods used to handle and control dogs and what to consider when selecting the most appropriate method of handling for a particular dog, or desired outcome e.g. current scientific evidence, previous experience, humane practices, legislation

K8 how to plan a structured plan for handling to achieve objectives which are specific, measurable, achievable, realistic and targeted (SMART)

K9 what to consider when assessing the suitability of the handling technique for the dog including needs, abilities, capabilities, interests, aggression, traits and confidence

K10 why it is important to monitor a dog’s response to handling and any signs of negative responses, to whom this should be reported and why

K11 the importance of recognising and assessing canine behaviour and condition before and during handling activities and taking appropriate action as necessary

K12 the importance of maintaining an understanding of current research into evolutionary history and changes associated with the role and purpose of dogs in society

K13 natural and normal behaviour patterns of dogs, including social behaviour and how dogs communicate with humans, other dogs and other species, including canine body language, breed specific traits and behaviours

K14 the different factors that affect a dog’s behaviour and what to do if these are observed

K15 the different forms of aggression displayed by dogs and how to recognise these

K16 the potential consequences of not reporting changes in the dog’s behaviour, its reaction to handling or factors that affect the dog’s behaviour
**Knowledge and understanding**

- **K17** your responsibility for safe and effective dog handling and control under relevant legislation and codes of practice
- **K18** the safe and effective use of handling equipment available to you and your role/remit and the dog to be handled
- **K19** the safe and effective methods of handling and controlling dogs
- **K20** the **functional anatomy and physiology** of a dog and the potential short and long term effects of handling on the health and welfare of the dog, both physiological and psychological
- **K21** the use and potential misuse of available control/handling equipment and the physical and psychological effect on the dog and its health and welfare
- **K22** the legal, welfare and ethical considerations of the form of handling used, the implications of not handling in an appropriate manner, and the consequences of allowing a dog to be out of control
- **K23** your responsibilities under relevant health and safety legislation, codes of practice and any other policies or procedures relevant to the handling technique or location
- **K24** the importance of carrying out risk assessments prior to and during the handling process
- **K25** how to implement health and safety measures to ensure safe handling practices are in place and followed during handling, including measures required to prevent injury to other persons, not involved in the handling of the dog, who may come into contact during the course of handling
- **K26** suitable methods of safely handling dogs, including when one or more are displaying signs of aggression
- **K27** how to ensure that the welfare of the dog is maintained throughout and that your behaviour does not cause adverse reactions, fear or distress
- **K28** the basics of dog care and management
- **K29** the importance of continually monitoring and evaluating the effect of the handling practices on the dog, and reviewing and revising the handling technique
- **K30** the factors which may affect the success of handling and how methods can be modified to improve its outcomes
- **K31** how to recognise the limits of effective handling and control techniques and when appropriate to use
- **K32** the importance of maintaining communication with others involved in the handling process
- **K33** the importance of seeking advice and guidance, from more experienced professionals, where to obtain professional advice and guidance and the role of professional bodies and associations
LANCTB4
Handle and control dogs

Knowledge and understanding

K34  the importance and relevance of maintaining accurate records, safe handling and storage of data, the importance of confidentiality and the requirements of the Data Protection Act (1998)

K35  the importance of appropriate insurance cover including professional indemnity

K36  your professional responsibilities and the importance of Continuing Professional Development (CPD) to maintain professional competence
**Scope/range**

**Information** about the dog to be considered when assessing suitability for the proposed training:

1. life history
2. physical condition and capabilities
3. age and development stage
4. health and medical history
5. diet
6. reproductive status
7. hormonal stage
8. current level of training
9. temperament/characteristics/traits
10. breed and parentage
11. motivational drivers and effects
12. environment – living, working, training/learning
13. legislation
Behaviours

- reflect on own performance with regards to handling practices
- reflect on past experiences with handling
- remain calm and confident, respond logically and decisively in difficult situations
- respond to challenges rationally, with consideration to the emotions of the dog
- manage ambiguity and deal with uncertainty and frustration when working the dog
- manage conflicting pressure and tension during handling the dog
- resist pressure to make quick decisions where full consideration is needed
- remain focused and in control of all situations during handling.

Glossary

Dogs - All domestic dogs including working dogs

Sources of information could include:

- the client
- a third party
- observation
- records

SMART objectives:

- Specific - Is the objective well defined and clear? Does it state exactly what is to be achieved?
- Measurable - How will I know when the objective has been achieved? What will success look like?
- Achievable - Is the objective attainable considering the capability of the dog?
- Realistic - Can the outcome be achieved within the availability of resources, knowledge and time?
- Targeted - Does the objective target a specific area for improvement?

Refer – includes formal or informal referral to professional body, individual or organisation

Functional anatomy and physiology to include:

- skeletal
- vertebrate
- nervous and endocrine systems

Veterinary Surgeons Act (1966)

All forms of complementary therapy that involve acts or the practise of veterinary surgery must be undertaken by a veterinary surgeon, subject to any exemption in the Act. At the same time, it is incumbent on veterinary surgeons offering any complementary therapy to ensure that they are adequately trained in its application.

Behavioural treatment of animals is not restricted under the Veterinary Surgeons Act (1966) unless it constitutes the practice of veterinary surgery.
There is no specific exemption order for animal behaviourism and therefore there is no formal jurisdiction to insist upon the involvement of a veterinary surgeon before animal behaviour work is carried out. In many cases, however, animal behaviourists will work on referrals from veterinary surgeons to ensure they are not accused of making a diagnosis of disease or injury (which is restricted to veterinary surgeon).

**Links To Other NOS**

- **LANAnC49** - Observe, assess and understand the behaviour of animals
- **LANCTB1** - Plan and implement training programmes for dogs
- **LANCTB2** - Plan and implement training programmes for dogs and handlers
- **LANCTB3** - Design, implement and evaluate a plan to address undesirable behaviour in dogs
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### Validity

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<th>Keywords</th>
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</table>
This standard covers planning and implementing training programmes for dogs and owner/handlers. The emphasis is on training the handler to train the dog rather than training the dog directly and requires experience both with dog training and the training of people.

The standard includes designing and developing training programmes for people and dogs by setting objectives and targets. It also includes evaluating how the training programme is implemented and monitoring the progress of the handler and the dog.

Users of this standard will need to ensure that training practices reflect up to date information, relevant training techniques, policies and procedures. They will work within the limits of their authority, accreditation, qualification and expertise of training, and have knowledge and experience of training dogs, supported by suitable canine specific academic studies which are humane and evidence based.

The dog training instructor may be working within a group environment and as such will require skills to include managing groups of people along with dogs. They will be an experienced dog trainer and will have an in-depth understanding of people training skills, learning theories and a wide range of communication skills.

Meeting the legal responsibilities for duty of care under relevant animal health and welfare and health and safety legislation is of paramount importance.

This standard is suitable for appropriately trained and experienced instructors with responsibility for planning and implementing training programmes for dogs and handlers.
LANCTB2
Plan and implement training programmes for dogs and handlers

**Performance criteria**

*You must be able to:*

**P1** comply with relevant animal health and welfare legislation, national legislation, local policies and codes of practice relating to dogs at all times

**P2** assess and make provision for the health and welfare needs of the dog

**P3** agree and confirm the purpose and intended outcomes of the training with all parties concerned and manage the expectations for dog and handler

**P4** assess the suitability of the dog concerned to undertake the training, based on information from a range of appropriate sources

**P5** assess the capabilities and potential of the handler to undertake and maintain the training

**P6** assess the dog’s physical condition and emotional state, with consideration to the life stage of the dog (i.e. puppy, juvenile, adult, senior), before and during training, recognising signs of stress, fear, aggression, pain, conflict and avoidance, and respond appropriately

**P7** handle and interact with the dog humanely and safely and in a manner that allows training to be carried out safely and effectively and that avoids creating behaviour which may give rise to welfare concerns

**P8** assess the training needs of the dog and handler and plan a structured programme of training which is specific, measurable, achievable, realistic and targeted (SMART), applying the principles of learning theory to dogs and humans

**P9** ensure activities are planned thoroughly for individual or group of handlers and that review and further development is built into the plan

**P10** select the most appropriate training methods and resources, for the particular dog, handler and desired training outcome, with due consideration of current scientific evidence, previous experience, humane practices and legislation

**P11** discuss the training programme with the handler and gain their understanding and agreement to fulfil their obligation to adhere to a structured training programme

**P12** manage and control a suitable and appropriate location and undertake dynamic risk assessment throughout the training

**P13** implement training in accordance with relevant health and safety legislation, risk assessment requirements, codes of practice and any other policies and procedures relevant to the training or location

**P14** maintain the safety and welfare of all persons and dogs present at all times and be continually aware of any factors outside of your control

**P15** ensure that resources are used safely and effectively to achieve training goals and safeguard the welfare of the dog

**P16** encourage and support the development of the dog and handler using motivational techniques
LANCTB2
Plan and implement training programmes for dogs and handlers

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<td>P17 recognise different learning styles of dog and handler and modify training accordingly</td>
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<td>P18 recognise, understand and act upon displayed stress indicators of the handler, including the relevance of non-verbal communication</td>
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<td>P19 recognise and respond to the needs, talents, capabilities and interests of the dog and handler</td>
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<td>P20 demonstrate training techniques with dogs belonging to others</td>
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<td>P21 manage delivery and communicate effectively with an individual and individuals within varying sized groups</td>
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<td>P22 be prepared to work with individuals outside of the group to ensure performance is maintained within the group</td>
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<td>P23 encourage handlers to learn and develop their skills giving them clear and direct guidance and feedback on their performance throughout the training</td>
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<td>P24 monitor the effect of the training on the dog's health and welfare and recognise if the training programme or a particular task is likely to be detrimental in the short or long term</td>
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<td>P25 monitor the dog and dog handler’s progress towards achievement of the training programme and develop performance through effective coaching</td>
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<td>P26 encourage the handler to provide appropriate support and feedback to the dog to develop an effective relationship</td>
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<td>P27 continually evaluate the training programme and adjust methods or the desired outcome where required for the dog to succeed</td>
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<td>P28 recognise when the training outcome is not achievable for the dog or handler and take appropriate action</td>
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<td>P29 recognise own limitations and refer to an appropriate professional when necessary e.g. senior trainer, canine behaviourist, veterinary surgeon</td>
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<td>P30 communicate clearly, verbally and in writing, with others involved in the training programme</td>
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<td>P31 ensure appropriate records are maintained and stored as required</td>
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<td>P32 maintain professional and ethical conduct and work within the limits of your own authority, expertise, training, competence, experience and relevant legislation</td>
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LANCTB2
Plan and implement training programmes for dogs and handlers

Knowledge and understanding
You need to know and understand:

K1 your responsibilities under relevant animal health and welfare, and other canine related legislation and codes of practice, and the legal limitations of the Veterinary Surgeons Act (1966) with regard to diagnosis and treatment of disease or injury

K2 how the welfare needs of dogs you engage with may be assessed and addressed

K3 the purpose for which the dog is being trained and the desired outcome of the training

K4 how to obtain and interpret information about the dog and handler and any factors that may affect the design of a training programme

K5 what to consider when assessing the suitability of the dog to undertake the training including needs, talents, abilities, interests and confidence

K6 the importance of assessing the capabilities and potential of the handler

K7 the importance of recognising and assessing canine behaviour and condition before and during training activities and taking appropriate action as necessary

K8 the functional anatomy and physiology of dogs and how to assess the potential short and long term effects of the training on the health and welfare of the dog, both physiological and psychological

K9 the importance of maintaining an understanding of current research into evolutionary history and changes associated with the role and purpose of dogs in society

K10 natural and normal behaviour patterns of dogs, including social behaviour and how dogs communicate with humans, other dogs and other species

K11 behavioural, emotional and physical development stages of dogs and the importance of critical periods of learning

K12 the effect of previous experiences on dog behaviour, the cause and effect of latent learned behaviour, nature versus nurture

K13 breed specific behaviours and traits and their potential effect on training and the behaviours that could be presented as a result of such training

K14 how dogs learn and the physical, psychological and environmental factors that affect learning, including the dogs lifestyle with the handler within their normal environment

K15 how people learn and the physical, psychological and environmental factors that affect learning

K16 the principles and techniques used in the training of dogs and handlers, and the skills relevant to the desired goals / training to be achieved

K17 how to plan a structured programme of training to achieve objectives which are specific, measurable, achievable, realistic and targeted (SMART)
LANCTB2
Plan and implement training programmes for dogs and handlers

Knowledge and understanding

K18 the different methods used to train dogs and what to consider when selecting the most appropriate method of training for a particular dog, or desired training outcome e.g. current scientific evidence, previous experience, humane practices, legislation

K19 the use and potential misuse of available training equipment, the physiological and psychological effect on the dog and its’ health and welfare and the importance of educating the handler in good practice

K20 the legal, welfare and ethical considerations of the form of training used, the implications of not training in an appropriate manner, and the consequences of allowing a dog to be out of control

K21 the use of positive and negative reinforcement and positive and negative punishment and the effects of these approaches on dog behaviour, health and welfare

K22 how to implement a structured training programme for dog and handler to meet specific objectives

K23 your responsibilities under relevant health and safety legislation, codes of practice and any other policies or procedures relevant to the training or location

K24 the importance of carrying out risk assessments prior to and during training sessions

K25 how to implement health and safety measures to ensure a safe training system is in place and followed during training, including safety measures required to prevent injury to other persons not involved in the training session, who may come into contact during the course of training

K26 the different forms of aggression displayed by dogs and how to recognise these

K27 suitable methods of safely handling dogs, including when one or more are displaying signs of aggression, with due regard to the welfare of the dog, your own safety and that of other people and other dogs

K28 how to effectively manage and care for a group of people with dogs within a training environment

K29 how to ensure that the welfare of the dog is maintained throughout and that your behaviour or that of others does not cause adverse reactions, fear or distress

K30 how to constantly observe, evaluate and modify responses throughout the training

K31 how to teach, motivate and support owner/handler to achieve and maintain the desired outcome

K32 non verbal communication and the indicators of stress in people and how to respond appropriately

K33 the indicators of stress in dogs
LANCTB2
Plan and implement training programmes for dogs and handlers

Knowledge and understanding

K34 the importance of continually monitoring and evaluating progress with the training and the effect on the dog and handler, and reviewing and revising the training programme

K35 the factors which may effect the progress and success of training and how training can be modified to improve its outcomes for the handler and the dog

K36 how to recognise when training outcomes may indicate that the handler and/or the dog is not suited for the activity for which they are being trained or not best suited to work together

K37 the importance of maintaining communication with others involved in the training programme

K38 the importance of seeking advice and guidance, from more experienced professionals, where to obtain professional advice and guidance and the role of professional bodies and associations

K39 the importance and relevance of maintaining accurate training records, safe handling and storage of data, the importance of confidentiality and the requirements of the Data Protection Act (1998)

K40 the importance of appropriate insurance cover including professional indemnity

K41 your professional responsibilities and the importance of Continuing Professional Development (CPD) to maintain professional competence
LANCTB2
Plan and implement training programmes for dogs and handlers

Scope/range

Information about the dog to be considered when designing a training programme:

1. life history
2. physical condition and capabilities
3. age and development stage
4. health and medical history
5. diet
6. reproductive status
7. hormonal stage
8. current level of training
9. temperament/characteristics/traits
10. breed and parentage
11. motivational drivers and effects
12. environment – living, working, training/learning
13. legislation

Capabilities and potential of the handler:

14. physical needs of the handler
15. learning needs of the handler
16. psychological needs of the handler

Resources:

17. personnel
18. training aids/equipment
19. handling aids/equipment
20. Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)
LANCTB2
Plan and implement training programmes for dogs and handlers

**Behaviours**
- reflect on own performance within the training session
- reflect on past experiences with training
- be approachable and make time for dog and handlers even when under pressure
- be prepared to make difficult decisions and have the confidence to see them through
- show reliability and resilience within difficult situations
- remain calm and confident, respond logically and decisively in difficult situations
- think clearly, manage conflict and deal with hostility and provocation in a calm and restrained manner
- respond to challenges rationally, avoiding inappropriate emotion
- maintain professional ethics when confronted with pressure from others
- manage ambiguity and deal with uncertainty and frustration
- stand firmly by a decision when it is right to do so
- find new ways of problem solving
- resist pressure to make quick decisions where full consideration is needed
- remain focused and in control of all situations during training.

**Glossary**

**Dogs** - All domestic dogs including working dogs

**Handler** – is the person who is training the dog during the session and may or may not be the owner of the dog

**Sources** of information could include:
- the client
- a third party
- observation
- records

**SMART objectives:**

- **Specific** - Is the objective well defined and clear? Does it state exactly what is to be achieved?
- **Measurable** - How will I know when the objective has been achieved? What will success look like?
- **Achievable** - Is the objective attainable considering the capabilities of the dog and handler?
- **Realistic** - Can the outcome be achieved within the availability of resources, knowledge and time?
- **Targeted** - Does the objective target a specific area for improvement?

**Refer** – could include formal or informal referral to professional body, individual or organisation

**Functional anatomy and physiology** to include:
LANCTB2
Plan and implement training programmes for dogs and handlers

• skeletal
• vertebrate
• nervous and endocrine systems

Veterinary Surgeons Act (1966)

All forms of complementary therapy that involve acts or the practise of veterinary surgery must be undertaken by a veterinary surgeon, subject to any exemption in the Act. At the same time, it is incumbent on veterinary surgeons offering any complementary therapy to ensure that they are adequately trained in its application.

Behavioural treatment of animals is not restricted under the Veterinary Surgeons Act (1966) unless it constitutes the practice of veterinary surgery.

There is no specific exemption order for animal behaviourism and therefore there is no formal jurisdiction to insist upon the involvement of a veterinary surgeon before animal behaviour work is carried out. In many cases, however, animal behaviourists will work on referrals from veterinary surgeons to ensure they are not accused of making a diagnosis of disease or injury (which is restricted to veterinary surgeon).

Links To Other NOS

LANAnC49 - Observe, assess and understand the behaviour of animals
LANCTB1 - Plan and implement training programmes for dogs
LANCTB3 - Design, implement and evaluate a plan to address undesirable behaviour in dogs
LANCTB4 - Handle and control dogs
LANCTB2
Plan and implement training programmes for dogs and handlers

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This standard covers planning and implementing training programmes for dogs. The emphasis for this standard is on the training of dogs rather than training the owner/handler.

This would include the training of pet / companion dogs, as well as working dogs (e.g. guide dogs, sheep dogs, gun dogs, search and rescue dogs, dogs for the disabled / assistance dogs) for a fixed period of time away from the home environment and the handler.

Users of this standard will need to ensure that training practices reflect up to date information, relevant training techniques, policies and procedures. They will work within the limits of their authority, accreditation, qualification and expertise of training, and have knowledge and experience of training dogs, supported by suitable canine specific academic studies which are humane and evidence based.

Meeting the legal responsibilities for duty of care under relevant animal health and welfare legislation is of paramount importance.

This standard is suitable for appropriately trained and experienced dog trainers with responsibility for planning and implementing training programmes for dogs.

Training dog and owner/handler is covered in LANCTB2 Plan and implement training programmes for dogs and handlers.
LANCTB1
Plan and implement training programmes for dogs

Performance criteria

You must be able to:

P1 comply with relevant animal health and welfare legislation, national legislation, local policies and codes of practice relating to dogs at all times

P2 assess and make provision for the health and welfare needs of the dog

P3 agree and confirm the purpose for which the dog is being trained and desired outcomes of the training with all parties concerned

P4 assess the suitability of the dog concerned to undertake the training, based on information from a range of appropriate sources

P5 assess the dog’s physical condition and emotional state, with consideration to the life stage of the dog (i.e. puppy, juvenile, adult, senior), before and during training, recognising signs of stress, fear, aggression, pain, conflict and avoidance, and respond appropriately

P6 handle and interact with the dog humanely and safely and in a manner that allows training to be carried out safely and effectively and that avoids creating behaviour which may give rise to welfare concerns

P7 assess the training needs of the dog and plan a structured programme of training which is specific, measurable, achievable, realistic and targeted (SMART), applying the principles of learning theory

P8 ensure activities are planned thoroughly for the trainer and dog and that review and further development is built into the plan

P9 select the most appropriate training methods and resources, for the particular dog and desired training outcome, with due consideration of current scientific evidence, previous experience, humane practices and legislation

P10 choose a suitable location to carry out the training and undertake dynamic risk assessment throughout the training

P11 implement training in accordance with relevant health and safety legislation, risk assessment requirements, codes of practice and any other policies or procedures relevant to the training or location

P12 maintain the safety and welfare of dogs and all persons present at all times

P13 ensure that resources are used safely and effectively to achieve training goals and safeguard the welfare of the dog

P14 encourage and support the development of the dog and motivate the dog to achieve the desired training programme

P15 recognise different learning styles of dog and modify training accordingly

P16 monitor the dog’s progress towards achievement of the training programme and identify reasons why the dog may not be performing well

P17 continually evaluate the training programme and adjust the training method or desired outcome where required for the dog to succeed
**LANCTB1**  
Plan and implement training programmes for dogs

<table>
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<td>P18</td>
<td>monitor the effect of the training on the dog's health and welfare and recognise if the training programme or a particular task is likely to be detrimental in the short or long term</td>
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<td>P19</td>
<td>recognise when the training outcome is not achievable by the dog, e.g. gun-shy gundog, and take appropriate action</td>
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<td>recognise own limitations and refer to an appropriate professional when necessary e.g. senior trainer, canine behaviourist, veterinary surgeon</td>
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<td>communicate effectively with others involved in the training programme</td>
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<td>ensure appropriate records are maintained and stored as required</td>
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<td>maintain professional and ethical conduct and work within the limits of your own authority, expertise, training, competence, experience and relevant legislation</td>
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LANCTB1
Plan and implement training programmes for dogs

Knowledge and understanding
You need to know and understand:

K1 your responsibilities under relevant animal health and welfare, and other canine related legislation and codes of practice, and the legal limitations of the Veterinary Surgeons Act (1966) with regard to diagnosis and treatment of disease or injury

K2 how the welfare needs of the dogs you engage with may be assessed and addressed

K3 the purpose for which the dog is being trained and the desired outcome of the training

K4 how to obtain and interpret information about the dog and any factors that may affect the design of a training programme

K5 what to consider when assessing the suitability of the dog to undertake the training including needs, talents, capabilities, interests and confidence

K6 the importance of recognising and assessing canine behaviour and condition before and during training activities and taking appropriate action as necessary

K7 the functional anatomy and physiology of a dog and the potential short and long term effects of training on the health and welfare of the dog, both physiological and psychological

K8 the importance of maintaining an understanding of current research into evolutionary history and changes associated with the role and purpose of dogs in society

K9 natural and normal behaviour patterns of dogs, including social behaviour and how dogs communicate with humans, other dogs and other species

K10 behavioural, emotional and physical development stages of dogs and the importance of critical periods of learning

K11 the effect of previous experiences on dog behaviour, the cause and effect of latent learned behaviour, nature versus nurture

K12 breed specific behaviours and traits and their potential effect on training and the behaviours that could be presented as a result of such training

K13 the principles and practical application of learning theory to dogs

K14 the principles and techniques used in the training of dogs, and the skills relevant to the desired goals / training to be achieved

K15 how to plan a structured programme of training to achieve objectives which are specific, measurable, achievable, realistic and targeted (SMART)

K16 the different methods used to train dogs and what to consider when selecting the most appropriate method of training for a particular dog, or desired training outcome e.g. current scientific evidence, previous experience, humane practices, legislation

K17 the use and potential misuse of available training equipment and the physical and psychological effect on the dog and its health and welfare
LANCTB1
Plan and implement training programmes for dogs

Knowledge and understanding

K18 the legal, welfare and ethical considerations of the form of training used, the implications of not training in an appropriate manner, and the consequences of allowing a dog to be out of control

K19 the use of positive and negative reinforcement and positive and negative punishment and the effects of these approaches on dog behaviour, health and welfare

K20 how to implement a structured training programme to meet specific objectives

K21 your responsibilities under relevant health and safety legislation, codes of practice and any other policies or procedures relevant to the training or location

K22 the importance of carrying out risk assessments prior to and during training sessions

K23 how to implement health and safety measures to ensure a safe training system is in place and followed during training, including measures required to prevent injury to other persons, not involved in the training of the dog, who may come into contact during the course of training

K24 the different forms of aggression displayed by dogs and how to recognise these

K25 how to recognise, evaluate and address behaviours throughout the training

K26 suitable methods of safely handling dogs, including when one or more are displaying signs of aggression

K27 how to ensure that the welfare of the dog is maintained throughout and that your behaviour does not cause adverse reactions, fear or distress

K28 the basics of dog care and management in the training environment

K29 the importance of continually monitoring and evaluating progress with the training and the effect on the dog, and reviewing and revising the training programme

K30 the factors which may affect the progress and success of training and how training can be modified to improve its outcomes

K31 how to recognise the limits to which effective training can be applied to achieve success and when the training may not be appropriate for the dog

K32 the importance of maintaining communication with others involved in the training programme

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LANCTB1
Plan and implement training programmes for dogs

**Scope/range**

Information about the dog to be considered when assessing suitability for the proposed training:

1. life history
2. physical condition and capabilities
3. age and development stage
4. health and medical history
5. diet
6. reproductive status
7. hormonal stage
8. current level of training
9. temperament/characteristics/traits
10. breed and parentage
11. motivational drivers and effects
12. environment – living, working, training/learning
13. legislation
Behaviours

- reflect on own performance within the training session
- reflect on past experiences with training
- remain calm and confident, respond logically and decisively in difficult situations
- respond to challenges rationally, with consideration to the emotions of the dog
- manage ambiguity and deal with uncertainty and frustration when working the dog
- manage conflicting pressure and tension during training of the dog
- resist pressure to make quick decisions where full consideration is needed
- remain focused and in control of all situations during training.

Glossary

**Dogs** - All domestic dogs including working dogs

**Sources** of information could include:

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- a third party
- observation
- records

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- Specific - Is the objective well defined and clear? Does it state exactly what is to be achieved?
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LANCTB1
Plan and implement training programmes for dogs

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## Developed by

### Version number
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### Date Approved
October 2014

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October 2019

## Validity

### Status
Original

### Originating organisation
Lantra

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### Relevant occupations
Dog training and behaviour; Veterinary paraprofessional

### Suite
Veterinary Paraprofessional Activities; Animal Care and Welfare

### Keywords
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