



THE KENNEL CLUB
Making a difference for dogs

Information Guide

So you are thinking of
working with dogs?



www.thekennelclub.org.uk

The aim of this guide is to give you some suggestions and general advice. The guide is not intended to be a replacement for professional careers advice. Detailed job descriptions, and information on the qualifications and training required, can be obtained from the organisations listed.



THE KENNEL CLUB

1-5 Clarges Street, Piccadilly, London W1J 8AB
Telephone 0844 4633 980 Email info@thekennelclub.org.uk

www.thekennelclub.org.uk

Join the conversation:

[twitter@kclovesdogs](https://twitter.com/kclovesdogs) **facebook.com/kclovesdogs**

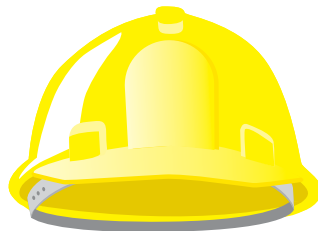
So you are thinking of working with dogs?

Competition for jobs working with animals is high, although the work itself may be low paid and you may find yourself working very long hours. However, if you have determination, dedication, good communication skills and a sense of humour then you will be well on your way to succeeding in your chosen field.

WORKING WITH ASSISTANCE DOGS

Skills needed:

- An affinity with, and understanding of dogs
- A good standard of education
- Strong interpersonal and communication skills
- Work/social experience with adults and children from various backgrounds
- Plenty of initiative and the ability to work alone and within a team
- Specialist skills such as sign language and lip speaking may be required
- Full UK driving licence is essential for some posts
- High level of fitness



LIST OF CONTACTS:

Canine Partners

Canine Partners is a charity providing very highly trained assistance dogs to severely physically disabled people keen to live independently in the community.



Telephone (Monday-Friday, 9am- 5pm)
08456 580 480
www.caninepartners.co.uk

Dogs for the Disabled

Trains specially selected dogs to perform tasks which people with disabilities find difficult or impossible to perform themselves, and provide these people with companionship, independence and security.



Telephone **01295 252 600** or email:
info@dogsforthedisabled.org.uk
www.dogsforthedisabled.org

Guide Dogs for the Blind Association

Breeds and trains guide dogs for visually impaired people to help them lead more independent lives.



Email guidedogs@guidedogs.org.uk
www.gdba.org.uk

Hearing Dogs for Deaf People

Trains dogs to act as 'hearing' ears for deaf people, thus offering a practical means to greater independence.



Telephone **01844 348 100**
www.hearingdogs.org.uk

WORKING AS A DOG TRAINER OR BEHAVIOURIST

Skills needed:

- An affinity with, and understanding of dogs
- Literate and numerate
- Self motivated and outgoing with strong communication skills
- Sense of humour and ability to motivate people
- Ability and confidence to handle dogs
- Able to use initiative and work alone as well as part of a team
- Those who choose to be self-employed will need business skills

LIST OF CONTACTS:

Kennel Club Accreditation Scheme for Instructors in Dog Training and Canine Behaviour

The Kennel Club Accreditation Scheme for Instructors in Dog Training and Canine Behaviour (KCAI) is the UK's first and only national and verified qualification for instruction in dog training and canine behaviour recognised by City & Guilds. Representing the "gold standard" in teaching, advice and service, the scheme is flexible and modular in format to allow members to allow members to become qualified in their area of interest or activity. All aspects of dog training and dog hobbies/sports, canine behaviour, dog walking/sitting, rescue/rehoming, and much more, fit within the scheme. Members are required to abide by a Code of Conduct committing to providing the best standard of advice and service.



Telephone **0844 4633 980**
ext **305 or 277**
www.kcai.org.uk

British Institute of Professional Dog Trainers



Telephone **01908 526 856**
www.bipdt.org.uk

Association of Pet Behaviourist Councillors



Telephone **01386 751 151**
www.apbc.org.uk

Association of Pet Dog Trainers



Telephone **01285 810 811**
www.apdt.org.uk

Association of Pet Behaviour Counsellors



Telephone **01386 751 151**
www.apbc.org.uk



KENNEL CLUB INSURANCE FOR DOG TRAINING INSTRUCTORS

The Kennel Club offers an Insurance scheme specially designed to meet the unique needs of Dog Training Instructors.

Whether you train on a one-to-one or class basis, the Kennel Club insurance for Dog Training Instructors has been designed so that YOU can tailor the cover to your personal training needs.

Cover can start when YOU want it to and is available for those training in the following disciplines:

- Agility
- Flyball
- Gundog Training
- Heelwork to Music
- Obedience
- Ringcraft

Because it is from the Kennel Club, the policy truly reflects the needs of dog training instructors and training clubs – expertise that other policies and insurance companies might find hard to match.

Likewise, public liability insurance is also essential for dog training instructors.

However it's not just public liability cover that you need – consider your members or trainees/handlers and your employees or volunteers. And don't forget the importance of cover for professional indemnity, property and cups and trophies.



THE KENNEL CLUB

INSURANCE FOR DOG TRAINING INSTRUCTORS



To find out more or for a personalised quotation call us on **0870 6091 437**

WORKING IN KENNELS

Skills needed:

- Lots of stamina and common sense
- A genuine interest in dogs and their welfare
- Confidence in handling dogs
- An ability to follow written and oral instructions
- Strong customer service skills
- A responsible attitude towards hygiene
- Ability to work as a member of a team

LIST OF CONTACTS:

Animal Boarding Advisory Bureau



Telephone **01606 891 303** (9-5 only)

Kennel and Cattery Management



Telephone **01293 871 201**
www.kennelandcattery.com

Battersea Dogs and Cats Home

Since 1860, rehoming service for stray/unwanted dogs.



Telephone **020 7622 3626**
www.dogshome.org

Dogs Trust

Maintains rescue centres for lost and unwanted dogs. The charity has a non-destruction policy.



Telephone **020 7837 0006**
www.dogstrust.org.uk

Wood Green Animal Shelter

Offers re-homing service for all types of pet.



Telephone **0844 248 8181**
www.woodgreen.org.uk



WORKING AS A DOG GROOMER

Skills needed:

- Should be manually dextrous with good hand to eye co-ordination
- Must have a good eye for detail and an artistic flair is an advantage
- Good customer service skills
- A neat and tidy appearance
- Must be able to handle and control all types of dogs
- Patience and confidence to cope with the individual temperament of each dog
- Self-motivated
- Those who choose to be self-employed will need business skills

LIST OF CONTACTS:

Groomers Association



Telephone **01234 273 933**

Pet Care Trust

Progressive and pro-active, the Pet Care Trust works continuously to improve the standards of pet keeping by promoting responsible pet ownership. The Pet Care Trust also raises awareness of the benefits of keeping pets through an ongoing and extensive information programme.



Telephone **01234 273 933**
www.petcare.org.uk

WORKING AS A DOG WARDEN

Skills needed:

- A good standard of education
- Previous experience with dogs is an advantage
- Good public relations skills
- Experience of law enforcement if possible
- An understanding of the laws affecting dogs and dog owners
- Presentation or teaching skills
- Good written skills for record keeping and report writing
- Must hold a full UK driving licence
- Must be prepared to work weekends/nights

LIST OF CONTACTS:

National Dog Wardens Association (NDWA)



www.ndwa.org.uk



**WORKING AS A ROYAL SOCIETY FOR
THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS
(RSPCA) INSPECTOR**

Skills needed:

- Must be determined and committed to the job
- Must be physically fit and able to swim 50 metres fully clothed
- Must hold a full UK driving licence
- Relevant work experience and National Vocational Qualifications are viewed favourably
- Must be able to work under considerable pressure---



Telephone **0300 123 0284**
www.rspca.org.uk

LIST OF CONTACTS:

**Scottish Society for the Protection of Cruelty to
Animals (SSPCA)**

Its primary aims are to prevent cruelty and promote kindness to animals.



Telephone **0300 999 999**
www.scottishspca.org

WORKING AS A VETERINARY NURSE

Skills needed:

- Must have commitment and be prepared to work hard
- Must be able to work as part of a team
- Must have excellent communication skills, particularly when dealing with clients who may be distressed
- Must not be nauseated or disturbed by the sight of blood
- Must be very confident in handling animals

LIST OF CONTACTS:

British Veterinary Nursing Association (BVNA)



Telephone **01279 408 644**
www.bvna.org.uk



WORKING AS A VETERINARY SURGEON

Skills needed:

- Must have a very high standard of education
- Must possess excellent communication skills to deal with clients and colleagues
- Must possess some degree of business acumen
- Should hold a full UK driving licence

LIST OF CONTACTS:

British Veterinary Association (BVA)



Telephone **020 7636 6541**
www.bva.org.uk

British Small Animal Veterinary Association (BSAVA)

Informs its members of developments in all areas of small animal veterinary medicine.



Telephone **01452 726 700**
www.bsava.com



Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons (RCVS)

The professional controlling body for veterinary surgeons.



Telephone **020 7222 2001**
www.rcvs.org.uk

British Association of Homeopathic Veterinary Surgeons



Telephone **01367 718 115**
www.bahvs.com



Visit **www.thekennelclub.org.uk**
to find out more.



THE KENNEL CLUB

Making a difference for dogs

The Kennel Club works to protect and promote the health and welfare of all dogs in the UK. We want happy, healthy dogs living long lives with responsible owners. All profits from the organisation go straight into funding the many programmes run in the best interest of dogs and dog owners.

Anyone can register their dog with the Kennel Club. By registering you will demonstrate your commitment to your dog's well-being and to the health and welfare of all dogs. You can register online today at www.thekennelclub.org.uk/dogregistration.

What ever your dog's needs, the Kennel Club is here to help and support you. Find out more by contacting us on 0844 4633 980, or visit our website at www.thekennelclub.org.uk and sign up to regular news and features about the wonderful world of dogs.

Additional guides on a wide range of subjects are also available to download from our website at www.doginformation.org.uk:

- Asthma and your dog
- Breeding from your bitch
- Choosing and bringing home the right dog for you
- DNA profiling and parentage analysis services
- Do you know dog law?
- Do you know how to look after your dog in its senior years?
- Do you know what to do if you lose your dog or find a stray?
- Find a rescue dog
- Health screening and the Kennel Club
- How to breed dogs using artificial insemination
- How to get involved in fun activities and competitions with your dog
- How to get started with dog training
- How to register your dog with the Kennel Club
- Kennel Club endorsements
- Moving house with your dog
- Road travel with your dog
- Thinking of showing your dog in the UK?
- Thinking of using your dog as a stud?
- Travelling abroad with your dog