

## **Bringing your dog to the vets**

### **How to prepare**

Preparation is key to ensuring your visit goes as smoothly as possible. If you have any questions then it is always best to jot them down so you don't forget.

If your dog is unwell, it is useful to write down all their symptoms and timelines of events to take with you. This will help your vet and make sure you don't forget any important factors. It can also help to see if there is a pattern to your dog's behaviour or illness, and if the symptoms are getting better or worse.

Some appointments, will require your dog to be fasted from midnight, so make sure you check with the receptionist when booking your appointment.

It's a good idea to walk your dog before your appointment to burn off some excess energy and let them go to the toilet.

If it's your dog's first visit, or you're going to a new vet, you may want to drop by the practice in advance to familiarise them with the environment and meet the team.

Having a good visit with lots of praise and attention will help with no negative connotations are associated with the building or the people, making future trips much easier.

If your pet is nervous at the vets, feel free to keep them outside and let us know when you are here therefore they are not getting stressed in the waiting room. There are different calming medications that can be prescribed to your dog before their appointment to make their experience less stressful. Please speak to our receptionist about this when booking your appointment.

### **What do you need to bring?**

- Favorite blanket or toy to make them feel at ease
- A lead and collar/harness to keep them safe in the clinic
- Some treats that they would usually have at home
- Vaccination records or paperwork if needed



### **How to make it a successful consult?**

Your dog will pick up on your body language so if you are calm this will help your dog to feel at ease. Remember we are here to help both you and your dog.

Please always ask any questions in your appointment. There is no such thing as a stupid question.

Reward your dog for good behaviour during the appointment with their favourite treat. This will help them make a positive association with going to the vets and will encourage them to be well-behaved during their appointment.

**To book in for your pet in for a health check or testing, please call us on 01423 228080 or visit [www.clarohillvets.co.uk](http://www.clarohillvets.co.uk).**