

Aireworth Vets   
SMALL ANIMAL 



### Surgery Hours By Appointment

Mon - Fri 8am - 8pm

Sat 8.30am - 4.30pm

Sun 10.30am - 12.00 midday

If you have any further queries about your pet's welfare, please do not hesitate to ask.

We are happy to help.

Aireworth Vets   
SMALL ANIMAL 

Aireworth Road, Keighley, West Yorkshire  
BD21 4DJ

Tel: 01535 602988

Email: [reception@aireworthvets.co.uk](mailto:reception@aireworthvets.co.uk)

## Senior Pet Nurse Clinics

[www.aireworthvets.co.uk](http://www.aireworthvets.co.uk)

## When is my pet 'senior'?

Pets over the age of 7 years are usually classed as 'geriatric'. This is based on their internal metabolism, kidney function, heart function and general life expectancy.

**Remember one year in a cat or dog's life is equivalent to 5-7 years in our own.**

You may have noticed subtle changes in your pet, maybe their eating and drinking habits have changed, or they have slowed down a bit and are not as keen to exercise.

We care about your pet's health and want him/her to enjoy a long and healthy life as much as possible without illness.

We also know it is less costly and treatment is more effective when problems are detected early; rather than to wait and treat an illness in a more advanced stage.

Senior pets have different requirements to younger pets. They require a different diet, different exercise patterns and they have different veterinary requirements.

At **Aireworth Vets** your cat or dog can have a full examination at **no cost** by booking a **Senior Pet Clinic** appointment with one of our qualified nurses.



## The senior pet clinic

The Senior Pet clinic is carried out by a registered veterinary nurse who will give your pet a thorough examination..

We may recommend that a blood or urine samples are taken to give a better idea of how your pet's internal organs are functioning. There is a specially discounted price for older cats and dogs. This test is sent away to an external laboratory and costs less than £45.00.

### What will the nurse check?

When you arrive for your senior pet clinic, your pet will receive a nose to tail examination. Some of the things that the nurse will check and discuss with you includes:

**Weight** - As pets get older they become less willing to exercise and if your pet's diet hasn't been adjusted to suit his/hers needs then they tend to put on excess weight.

**Nutrition** - Dogs and cats over 7 years also require a change in diet to suit their life stage. At this time the body is in decline and their diet should be changed to deal with this.

Older animals require a **diet** lower in protein, as the kidneys, which deal with the toxic breakdown products, are finding it more and more difficult to filter out these toxins. Reducing the amount of toxins the kidneys have to deal with extends the life of your pet.

Senior pets also require a diet lower in **salt** and phosphorus to reduce the stress on their hearts. High digestibility is also essential to enable your pet to absorb all the goodness it can from its food. This and much more will be discussed during the consultation.

**Dental Hygiene** - A common problem for older animals is dental disease, which causes bad breath and great discomfort for your pet. The nurse will be able to advise you on preventative treatments.

**Joint Care** - As pets age the day to day 'wear and tear' of joints can start to take their toll and you may find your pet becoming stiff and intolerant to exercise, this could be due to joint pain.

The nurse can recommend many types of product that can help make your pet's joints more comfortable.

**Exercise** - Senior pet requirements are widely different from younger pets and changing your habits to suit your senior pet's needs are important.

Exercise routines may need to change and frequent short walks are usually the best for your pet's health.

**Practical tips and advice** - The nurse can give you plenty of common-sense advice about keeping an older pet healthy, as well as telling you about some of the specialist products available for senior pets.



If you have any queries or would like to know more, please don't hesitate to contact us.

**We are happy to help.**