

**City&**  
**Guilds**

**LEVEL 2 & 3  
DOG  
GROOMING  
COURSES**



  
**Ofsted**  
Good  
Provider



The College of  
Animal Welfare

# WELCOME TO CAW

The College of Animal Welfare was established in 1989 by one of the leading animal welfare charities, Wood Green Animal Shelters in Cambridgeshire. The vision was to use education to help tackle animal welfare issues and the problem of unwanted and abandoned animals.

In 1996, the College, known at the time as the Wood Green College of Animal Welfare, became an independently managed, not-for-profit, organisation in its own right and changed its name to The College of Animal Welfare.

Today, the College has five main centres, as well as satellite centres across the UK, and specialises in training in the land-based sector. We strongly believe that education and training is the key to raising standards of animal welfare. To this end, we strive to create new and accessible opportunities for learning, and encourage employers and those working with animals to undertake appropriate levels of training and continue with lifelong learning and education.

We are committed to enabling our students to make the most of their time with us and gain valuable skills and qualifications to ensure a bright and prosperous future.

## WHY CHOOSE DOG GROOMING?

The British Dog Grooming Association recognises the City & Guilds accredited dog grooming courses as a professional standard required by all dog groomers.

If you are hard-working, passionate about dogs and looking for a career with flexible opportunities then dog grooming could be for you! You will get the chance to express your creativity through different styles and techniques (whilst complying with owner requests) and play a big part in keeping dogs healthy and happy.

Once you are a qualified dog groomer, there are a number of opportunities available to you. You can choose to work in various settings like salons, pet shops, mobile units, or even set up a grooming station at home. This means you can have a great work-life balance. Additionally, you'll build strong bonds with both dogs and their owners, creating a real sense of community and satisfaction.

Customer service skills are extremely important. Whilst you will spend most of the time working with dogs, you have to be able to communicate clearly with each owner to understand their dog's requirements, and build up a rapport to encourage repeat custom. The work is also physically demanding so you should make sure you are able to carry out the work.

If you are unsure as to whether dog grooming is the career for you, we may be able to arrange for you to come into one of our salons for a taster day; signing up to undertake a course is a big commitment and we want to make sure it is right for you.

## FINANCING YOUR COURSE

We advise that you look at our website for the current course fees.

Payment options can vary depending on which course you choose to study and your individual circumstance, but may include:

- CAW Loans2Learn personal loan scheme
- The Government's Advanced Learner Loans for level 3 and above courses.

## Speak to a Client Advisor

If you are considering dog grooming as a new career and would like to talk through your options, please call us and speak to one of our Client Advisors. They are here to help you and make sure that you choose the course that is right for you.

T: 01480 422060 E: [admin@caw.ac.uk](mailto:admin@caw.ac.uk)

# What's it like to study dog grooming at The College of Animal Welfare?

Watch the video below to listen to some of our former students and tutors.



*"The course has been extremely helpful in building my knowledge and giving me the practical experience of dog grooming. The tutors are approachable and have encouraged me along the way, which has given me the confidence to set up and build my own dog grooming business. I have thoroughly enjoyed every day at the College". Lisa L*

*"The tutors and staff were always very helpful when I asked for help. The theory when learning about animals was very informative, and I particularly found the practical study in the grooming room invaluable experience". Tracey V*

*"The facilities are excellent, providing an environment where you are able to experience what it would be like working in a Grooming Parlour". Chantel R*



# CITY & GUILDS LEVEL 2 CERTIFICATE FOR DOG GROOMING ASSISTANTS

*Awarded by City & Guilds, this qualification is ideal if you are new to the industry and looking to train as a dog groomer.*

*You will work with qualified groomers in our fully equipped dog grooming salons. There is an emphasis on practical training throughout the course to give you the knowledge, skills and confidence to undertake a range of bathing and grooming techniques.*

## ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

There are no formal academic requirements. We are looking for students who are passionate about dog welfare, and have a genuine desire to join the dog grooming industry.

## CONTENT

Online learning will be complemented by practical training throughout the programme, giving you the opportunity to gain confidence in using professional dog grooming equipment to undertake a range of bathing and grooming techniques. You will learn how to:

- Prepare and groom dogs prior to bathing
- Bath dogs
- Dry dogs and prepare them for styling
- Trim and prepare dogs for styling
- Move and lift dogs in the salon
- Maintain the cleanliness and biosecurity of the dog grooming environment

You will also look at professional practice in the grooming parlour by exploring health and safety, professional conduct, dealing with incidents and emergencies, and record keeping.

As a dog groomer you will need to have an understanding of different dog breeds, as well as an understanding of basic anatomy, common health conditions and body language and behaviour; these will be covered during the course.

## ASSESSMENT

You will complete written and practical assessments and undertake an online examination.

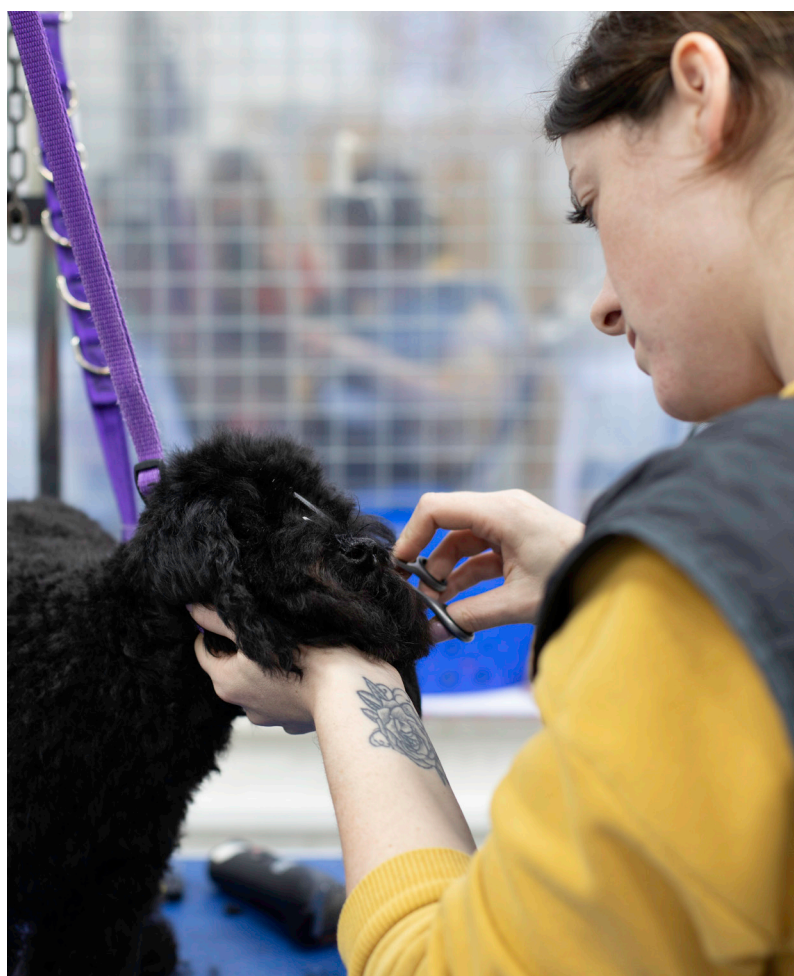
## KEY FACTS

- ✓ Day release
- ✓ Online lessons and practical skills training in college
- ✓ 6 months duration
- ✓ Fast track options may be possible
- ✓ Huntingdon or Leeds
- ✓ Accredited by City & Guilds

## WHAT NEXT?

Completion of this course will give you the skills and knowledge needed to be able to apply for the City & Guilds Level 3 Diploma in Dog Grooming course; the next step to becoming a fully qualified dog groomer.

Alternatively, you could look for employment working in the dog grooming sector to gain further experience, if you are not already doing so.



# CITY & GUILDS LEVEL 3 DIPLOMA IN DOG GROOMING

*This course builds upon the knowledge gained during the City & Guilds Level 2 Certificate for Dog Grooming Assistants qualification and will give you the skills and abilities to work as a professional dog groomer. You will gain confidence in handling and grooming a range of dogs of differing breeds, of different temperaments and ages. You be able to identify signs of normal and abnormal behaviour to minimise stress, and know how to undertake health checks and adjust grooming regimes accordingly.*

*During your training, you will work alongside qualified dog groomers in our fully equipped grooming salons, complete with professional dog grooming equipment and access to a variety of dogs.*

## ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

There are no formal academic requirements. We are looking for students who are passionate about dog welfare, and have a genuine desire to join the dog grooming industry.

## CONTENT

Online learning will be complemented by practical training throughout the programme. You will cover the following units:

### **Health and safety, legislation and codes of practice for the dog grooming industry**

You will learn about relevant animal welfare legislation and look at minimising risks and emergency situations through safe working practices.

### **Styling and finishing a dog**

You will learn how to style and finish a range of dog breeds of differing temperaments and ages. Throughout the unit there will be an emphasis on recognising and minimising stress in dogs and working in a safe manner.

### **Health checking and handling a dog in a dog grooming environment**

You will look at basic canine anatomy and physiology and suitable handling and restraint techniques. You will understand how to carry out ongoing health checks and recognise normal and abnormal behaviours in order to adjust the grooming regime accordingly.

### **Customer service and record keeping in a dog grooming environment**

You will learn how to communicate effectively with clients, and know how to handle the administrative and financial aspects of the dog grooming salon.

## ASSESSMENT

You will complete a written exam and practical assignment. There will be unit tests in preparation for the final exam.

## WHAT NEXT?

Achievement of this qualification will demonstrate to employers and the public that you have the necessary technical skills and knowledge to work as a professional dog groomer.

You may wish to seek employment as a dog groomer, perhaps even progressing to a managerial role after demonstrating your abilities within a fast paced grooming environment.

You could also consider starting up your own grooming business from home, in commercial premises, or out and about by taking it mobile, or work in partnership with an existing business such as a boarding kennels or dog walkers. This is a great way to build up connections with existing client bases, which will help to boost your new venture.

## KEY FACTS

- ✓ Day release
- ✓ Online lessons and practical skills training in college
- ✓ 38 weeks (approx 9 months)
- ✓ Fast track options may be possible
- ✓ Huntingdon or Leeds
- ✓ Accredited by City & Guilds

# DOG GROOMER LEVEL 2 APPRENTICESHIP

*As a dog grooming apprentice you will be employed in a dog grooming environment, allowing you to gain the crucial, hands-on practical skills and experience that come with working in a fast-paced environment.*

*This is an ideal option for those who would like to earn whilst they learn, and gain real-life employment history whilst building their CV.*

*You will benefit from a range of online learning materials, including virtual demonstrations from our experienced, passionate and knowledgeable lecturers.*

## KEY FACTS

- ✓ Live Online virtual classroom lessons
- ✓ 12 months duration
- ✓ No college attendance required
- ✓ Assessor support
- ✓ Available in England



You will spend six hours per week of your work time undertaking off-the-job training.

## ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

There are no formal academic entry requirements. However, you will need to be living and working in England in a suitable dog grooming environment, earning at least the National Minimum Wage for Apprentices.

## CONTENT

You will gain the essential knowledge, skills and behaviours needed of a dog groomer to ensure you maintain safe working practices and take responsibility for yourself, others and the animals in your care. During your course, you will cover how to:

- Prepare and groom dogs prior to bathing
- Bath dogs
- Dry dogs and prepare them for styling
- Trim and prepare dogs for styling
- Move and lift dogs in the salon
- Maintain the cleanliness and biosecurity of the dog grooming environment

You will also look at professional practice in the grooming parlour by exploring health and safety, professional conduct, dealing with incidents and emergencies, and record keeping.

As a dog groomer you will need to have an understanding of different dog breeds, as well as an understanding of basic anatomy, common health conditions and body language and behaviour; these will be covered during the course.

You will also undertake Functional Skills in English and maths if you are under 19 years of age (unless exempt).

## ASSESSMENT

You will compile a portfolio of evidence to demonstrate your knowledge, skills and behaviours. Once you have completed your portfolio and a minimum of 12 months of training, you will be able to undertake the End Point Assessment. The EPA consists of:

- 1. Observation with questions:** An independent assessor will observe, and ask questions, of you in your workplace whilst you undertake your normal work duties.
- 2. Interview underpinned by a portfolio of evidence:** An independent assessor will ask you a series of questions to assess your competence underpinned by your portfolio of evidence.
- 3. Knowledge test:** You will undertake a test consisting of a series of multiple choice questions.

If you are required to undertake Functional Skills alongside this apprenticeship you will undertake additional assessments for these.

## WHAT NEXT?

On completion of your apprenticeship you will have gained the knowledge, skills, behaviours and practical experience needed to excel in a dog grooming role.

If you are looking to study to the next level you may consider undertaking further dog grooming qualifications.





# Ready to Apply? It's simple...

1. Visit our website.
2. Find the course you wish to apply for.
3. Click on the 'Apply Now' button and follow the step-by-step instructions.
4. Once you have completed your application you will be contacted by a member of our admissions team with the next steps.



Chord Business Park, London Road, Godmanchester,  
Cambridgeshire PE29 2BQ

T: 01480 422060    E: [admin@caw.ac.uk](mailto:admin@caw.ac.uk)    W: [www.caw.ac.uk](http://www.caw.ac.uk)