**Wagtails K9 Hydrotherapy**



**Pre-Swim Information**

* Please do not feed your dog 2 hours before and after their swim.
* Please bring your own towel to the session, which we will use to dry your dog/cat. We do have a blaster and can dry them off with that if they do not mind it.
* You may want to bring a coat especially if the weather is cold, to put on after for their journey home. This helps keep the muscles warms.
* Please ensure your pet has been to the toilet before their session. This is important because the pool will have to be closed for 24hrs if they defecate and the water will have to be treated. Therefore, resulting in the closure of the pool. A penalty fee will have to be charged.
* Please ensure you contact us prior to your session if your pet has any health problems since we last saw them.
* If your dog requires any medication for emergency conditions such as epilepsy, please bring it along with you.
* Please ensure you wear suitable shoes preferably non-slip and suitable clothing you may also get wet!
* Do not administer any flea treatment 48 hours before your swim.
* If your pet as the following:

Bitch in season

Any open wounds.

Suffered with vomiting or diarrhoea in the last 48 hours

Any contagious conditions such as kennel cough, we will have to rearrange your appointment so please contact us as soon as possible:

**What to expect**

* Please park on the grass verge and wait at the gate, do not ring the bell I will come up and get you.
* Please ensure your dog is on a lead at all times and pick up after them if they toilet.
* Please ensure you arrive on time for your appointment if you are late then this will have to be taken out of your time.
* Owners and animals enter the centre at their own risk. We do not take responsibility for any loss or damage whilst in the centre.
* Payment for each session must be done on the day cash only.
* Cancellation must be done 24 hours before your appointment unless of emergency and failure to do so will result in a fee.

**For fun and Fitness**

Your pet will have a 30-minute session this will include drying afterwards. Depending on your pet’s fitness will determine how long they are in the pool. They must be fit to swim and that is why it is important to get consent from your vet to ensure their heart and lungs are ok and in good health.

During the session, the hydro therapist will be in the pool and if they enjoying playing with toys we will get them to fetch and play with them.

**Please note** your pet will not be allowed to jump in and out of the pool. This is because of safety and we do not want those swallowing gallons of water, especially large breed dogs.

**Hydrotherapy Appointments**.

For hydrotherapy appointments, we will be measuring your pet’s muscles each session to see if they have gained any muscle mass. Most pets with problems loose muscle mass and hydrotherapy is a great way to build it back up due to it been non-weight bearing exercise.

The hydro therapist will be in the pool with them and be able to monitor their range of motion and help them get the best from each session.

**Benefits of Hydrotherapy**

* A 5-minute session is equal to your pet doing a 20-minute walk! The length of time your dog is in the water will increase their fitness. This will be gradually increased during each session.
* Hydrotherapy provides non-weight bearing exercise in a controlled and safe environment. It is very beneficial post-surgery to help improve the range of motion and maintain muscle tissue on the affected limb.
* Due to been non-weight bearing it prevents stress on the body caused by hard ground, and most of the muscles used in daily movement are involved.
* Warm water increases the circulation of blood to the muscles, it also provides them with oxygen and nutrients, which leads to muscle relaxation, and reduces pain and stiffness.
* Due to the muscles having to work harder in water than on ground, it also increases fitness and improves the cardiovascular system. This is also a great way to help weight loss (we also run a weight loss programme).

**Photographs and Videos**

We may take pictures or videos for our website or Facebook page but we will ask permission due to data protection. Please feel free to post your own on our Facebook page.

We take our responsibility for looking after information seriously. We follow the data protection act at all times when asking for or handling your information including:

* Personal data shall be processed fairly and lawfully.
* Data is processed only for the purpose for which it is collected.
* Data is adequate, relevant and not excessive.
* Data is accurate and kept upto date.
* Data is not kept longer than necessary.

Data is kept secure against unauthorised access or damage