

PAYNEHAM VET CENTRE

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Parasite control

Worming

Puppies should be wormed at 6, 8, 10 and 12 weeks of age. Then monthly until 6 months old.

All dogs should be wormed every 3 months (unless on Heartworm prevention which includes worming). If you ever see worms in your pets' stools then worm immediately and follow up 2 weeks later.

Heartworm

All dogs should be on Heartworm prevention which starts at 12 weeks, monthly or a yearly *Proheart* injection which starts at 12 weeks, then repeated at 6 months and 15 months of age, then every 12 months for life.

A blood test will be required if older than 8 months.

Fleas

Very often new pups will have fleas. The difficulty of eliminating fleas is their fast reproduction i.e., in summer a flea egg only takes 3 weeks to hatch into another flea! Eggs live in environment, as your pet walks around eggs are shed, and will burrow into the carpet or grass, thus are very difficult to eradicate.

There are many products which kill fleas and/or flea eggs.

- **Shampoo** - Only for pups over 12 weeks age, good flea control for one week, can be an irritant.
- **Sprays** - Only for pups over 12 weeks of age, can be a problem if your pet dislikes being sprayed Most products give good flea control for one week. *Frontline* lasts two months on the coat.
- **Powder** - Not good as fall out of the coat.
- **Collars** - Flea collars have varying lifetimes, usually 6 monthly.
- **Spot ons** - Good products that provide good protection against fleas, flea larvae, and flea eggs for one month. Easy to administer and remain on the coat even if washed as in crystalline form in the fats of the skin. Products available from the veterinary reception:
 - **Advantage** - from birth
 - **Advocate** - from 7 weeks – includes heartworm and worms
 - **Tablets - Nexgard Spectra** - Flea and all wormer and Heart wormer can be used in pups older than 8 weeks. Tasty chew.
 - **Simparica** - Flea control Can be used in pups from 8 weeks or older. Tasty chew.

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