

RSPCA WOODSIDE ANIMAL CENTRE

ADULT –ADVANCED

AIM

Woodside Animal Centre's advanced course aims to build upon the skills learnt in the intermediate level whilst increasing the difficulty. This level is a natural progression of practical skills and is the highest stage available.

ELIGIBILITY

Dogs must be fully vaccinated and can be of any age if they already passed the intermediate level.

ASSESSMENTS

Woodside's training is not competitive and assessment will be continuous over the 7 weeks. To pass dogs must demonstrate a good level of skill on all exercises but perform each exercise at least five times (instructor's discretion)

Exercise 1 – Intermediate review

Dogs must show that they have retained the skills learnt in the intermediate level. This will involve basic recall, walking on the lead, 1 minute stay and wait commands.

Exercise 2 – Road walking

The owner will be asked to demonstrate their dog can walk well on the road. This exercise will include changes of pace and direction and kerb control.

Exercise 3 – Heel Work

A range of exercises to, encourage close walking. Return to handler's side, heel- walk including changes of direction. The eventual aim is off-lead control.

Exercise 4 – Stay for 2 minutes

Owners will be encouraged to ask their dogs to stay in one position, a little movement is acceptable, but no change of position. This exercise will include 30 seconds at a distance away.

Exercise 5 – Send the dog to bed

This will include owners bringing their dogs own bedding and teaching the dog to lie down from a distance. The bed may be placed anywhere.

Exercise 6 – Stop the dog

The owner will aim to keep the dog in a controlled wait and move 10 paces away and on instruction call the dog and command it to stop in any position. The dog will be allowed a small amount of time to stop if travelling at speed.

Exercise 7 – Recall

In a large enclosed area the owner will be distanced from the dog and encouraged to call them back, concluding with praise. Other distractions may include other dogs on the outside of the pen and unusual noise. Any reasonable incentive to return may be used.

Exercise 8 – Responsibility and care questions

An exercise for owners to, test their knowledge on dog care, the canine code and responsibilities of ownership at a higher level.