

Staying in touch



A review of 2024

The New Year offers us a wonderful opportunity to look back on the previous year, allowing us to appreciate our achievements and identify areas for growth in the year ahead.

The results from last year highlighted numerous accomplishments worth celebrating. When I say 'us,' I refer not only to the Abbeydale team but also to our students, clinical coaches, and the broader community, all of whom contribute to the students' learning experience.

Overall written exam paper achievement rates (first attempt)

Paper 1 - 95%
(based on 55 students)

Paper 2 - 80%
(based on 60 students)

Paper 3 - 90%
(based on 50 students)

Paper 4 - 85%
(based on 52 students)

Paper 5 - 96%
(based on 55 students)

Average score per unit

VNSA3 (A&P)- 73.9%

VNSA4 (health & husbandry)- 80.6%

VNSA5 (infection control)- 77.1%

VNSA6 (general nursing)- 77.3%

VNSA7 (pharmacy)- 75.6%

VNSA8 (radiology)- 79.5%

VNSA10 (theatre practice)- 71.1%

VNSA11 (anaesthesia)- 76.7%

VNSA13 (medical nursing)- 72.6%

VNSA15 (surgical nursing)- 75.4%

VNSA17 (ECC)- 79.5%

VNSA18 (professional regulation)- 82.4%

Looking forward to 2025

Abbeydale is thrilled about the ways we can enhance our student support and teaching programs, and we have some exciting updates to share:

- We're launching new **Level 2 English and Maths functional skills qualifications**. These can complement GCSEs for skill enhancement or serve as entry qualifications for the Level 3 Diploma in Veterinary Nursing. This online, self-paced qualification allows students to start at their convenience. Prices include the online exam and support. Feel free to reach out for more details.
- Abbeydale will once again present a **Veterinary Nurse Assistant stream at the BVNA Congress** in October 2025!
- We are offering the **Level 2 Veterinary Nurse Assistant Diploma via distance learning**, making it more accessible to a wider range of students.
- Future qualifications in development include the **Level 2 Safe Use of Medication for Small Animals**, as well as species-specific **Level 2 Veterinary Nurse Assistant pathways focusing on Feline and Exotics**.
- The **Level 3 Veterinary Nurse Diploma qualification is also in development**, with more details to be provided later this year.
- We are **enhancing Abbeydale's teaching facilities**, with additional information to be shared later in the year.

CLINICAL COACH STANDARDISATION EVENTS 2025



Online sessions:

- Thursday, 6th March 6 pm-8 pm
- Monday, 19th May 2 pm-4 pm
- Wednesday, 16th July 5 pm-7 pm
- Tuesday, 11th November 6 pm-8 pm

In-person:

- Monday, 15th September 11 am-1 pm

Topic 's being covered this year include;

- Preparing students for nursing consultations
- Quality assurance – how can a coach support/encourage a student with this
- The use of expert witnesses
- Care bundles vs care plans

Presented by our IQA's, Hil Varlow and Juliet Whatley



RESERVE YOUR SPOT TODAY BY VISITING:
VETNURSETRAINING.CO.UK

Abbeydale Alumni: Where Are They Now?

At Abbeydale, we're incredibly proud of our alumni and their diverse, exciting journeys post-graduation. Here's a spotlight on some of the amazing paths they've taken:

Working with Rescued Seals

One of our dedicated alumni experiences hands-on nursing care with rescued seals. Their efforts ensure that these beautiful creatures receive the care and rehabilitation they need to thrive in their natural habitats.



Specialising in Feline Behaviour

Another alum is currently completing a certificate in Feline Behaviour. Their passion for our feline friends will undoubtedly lead to happier, healthier cats and more informed cat owners.



Becoming Clinical Coaches

Many of our graduates have taken on the rewarding role of becoming a clinical coach. By sharing their expertise and guiding new professionals, they're shaping the future of veterinary nursing.

Practice ownership and management positions

Some previous Abbeydale students have transitioned into roles from RVNs to now practice owners, leveraging their expertise and leadership skills to run successful businesses. Some have risen to the esteemed position of leading teams or regional managers, driving excellence throughout.



Pursuing Chiropractic Studies

One determined alumnus is pursuing a part-time degree in Chiropractic at the renowned McTimoney College. This rigorous program will equip them with the skills to provide holistic healthcare solutions.

Gaining Experience at Australia Zoo

One adventurous graduate travelled the globe and completed work experience at the Australia Zoo. This unique opportunity gave them invaluable insights into exotic animal care and conservation efforts.

Mastering Ultrasound Techniques

Another graduate is delving into the specialised field of ultrasound techniques, advancing their diagnostic skills to serve their future patients better.

Joining Referral Practices

Lastly, many of our alumni have advanced their careers by joining referral practices. These high-level positions allow them to collaborate with experts and provide specialised care to complex cases.



We couldn't be prouder of our Abbeydale alumni and the incredible impacts they're making worldwide. Each success story reaffirms the power of passion, education, and dedication in veterinary nursing.

If you are a former Abbeydale student with a story to share, please don't hesitate to contact us—we would love to hear from you!

Celebrating Emma's Achievement!



We are thrilled to announce that Emma Collins, a cherished member of the Abbeydale team, has successfully completed the Level 5 Diploma in Education and Training!

Emma's commitment to her professional development and unwavering dedication to education have culminated in this significant milestone. The Level 5 Diploma is a prestigious qualification that enhances her teaching skills and knowledge, allowing her to make an even greater impact in her role as our lead tutor.

Emma's enhanced expertise will not only benefit our students but also contribute to the overall excellence of the Abbeydale team. We are confident that Emma will continue to inspire and mentor her colleagues and students alike.

Please join us in congratulating Emma on this remarkable accomplishment.

Level 3 DipVN April starters

3rd February- Application deadline

24th February- Interviews

17th March- Induction day



17th-21st of February

Guided study week for all cohorts

26th February

Publication of results from the written exams held in January

12/13th April

OSCEs @Abbeydale

14th-25th April

Easter break, one holiday week, and one guided study week

31st March and 7th of April

Mock OSCEs @Abbeydale

29th April to 2nd May

Written exam week

Course & apprenticeship information for employers



Level 3 Diploma in Veterinary Nursing

Comprehensive training for aspiring veterinary nurses.
The course starts in January, April, and September.
2-year day release
Apprenticeship funding available

Level 2 Veterinary Nurse Assistant Diploma

It is ideal for those starting their journey in veterinary care.
1-year course that can be completed remotely.
The course starts in April and September.
Apprenticeship funding available



Level 2 Veterinary Nurse Assistant Diploma (Equine)

Specialised training for equine care.
1-year course that can be completed remotely.
The course starts in April and September.
Apprenticeship funding available



Level 2 English and Maths

Online course and exam
Self-paced and can start at any time
GCSE equivalent qualifications that can be used as entry qualifications for the Level 3 DipVN



Apprenticeship funding for practices in Wales

Abbeydale sub-contracts funding from a company called Educ8.
You don't need to make any contribution.
Includes all tuition fees, CQ awarding body fees, and the first attempt at all examinations (including the OSCEs).

Apprenticeship funding for corporate practices in England

Fees are claimed directly by Abbeydale from the Digital Levy fund.
You don't need to make any contribution.
Includes all tuition fees, CQ awarding body fees, and the first attempt at all examinations (including the end-point assessment).

Apprenticeship funding for independent practices in England

Abbeydale claims the funding directly and supports you with any paperwork
£850 employer contribution per student
(free for 17-22 year olds)
Includes all tuition fees, CQ awarding body fees, and the first attempt at all examinations (including the end-point assessment).

For more details, contact us or visit our website to access the online application form.