



# Penbode Equine Vets

## UPDATED GUIDANCE ON ESSENTIAL WORK AND VACCINATIONS

Monday 20th April



In response to the national lockdown period being extended beyond 3 weeks, equine practices have been issued with new guidance from the RCVS and BEVA. Subject to strict conditions, we are now able to undertake certain procedures required to maintain equine health and welfare within the next 2-month period. This includes annual vaccinations. These visits can be carried out provided that social distancing can be exercised.

Every vaccination booking will be subjected to a RISK ASSESSMENT, both to safeguard your health and that of our vets. We will run through this with you when you call - but in essence our vets will expect to arrive, to have your horse waiting tied up in a stable, to vaccinate it while you watch from 10m away, for the passport to be left out for signing, and then to leave (after exchanging a friendly wave with you!). Only one person may be present during these visits. You should not be present at all if you are undergoing self-isolation or if you are vulnerable.

Despite these measures, we understand many of you will still be anxious about a veterinary visit during the current restrictions. We would encourage you to phone us with any queries about your horse and situation and we will do our best to guide you accordingly.

At present we are not re-starting vaccination courses that have lapsed during COVID restrictions, as these will require more than one visit and hence increase risk. We are keeping this under constant review, so please look out for further information on this. There will be a vaccination amnesty available to mitigate the expense of starting a new course for these horses.

This does not mean that we are returning to business as usual. At present we will first assess all non-urgent work remotely, before determining if a visit is necessary. This may be by telemedicine consultations or on the phone.

**If you have any questions about any of the information here, please feel free to phone us and speak to our team: 01409 255549 or 01822 613838.**

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