



ABBOTSHOLME FUTURE VETS & ANIMAL SCIENCE

SUMMER EXPERIENCE

Based on our 140-acre campus with a working farm and a BHS-accredited equine centre, Abbotsholme offers unmatched access to real animals and facilities - no other summer school provides this level of hands-on experience.

Join us for an exciting summer programme where students explore the world of veterinary medicine and animal science in a supportive, hands-on environment.

You'll experience life as a vet, shadow experienced professionals, work with real animal patients, and take part in realistic career simulations. Explore veterinary and animal care sites, gain practical skills, and join an exclusive vet school preparation session designed to help your applications stand out. With small groups and expert guidance, even beginners build confidence in animal handling, clinical practice, and animal welfare.

The programme is perfect for students considering careers in veterinary medicine, veterinary nursing, veterinary physiotherapy, animal science, or other animal care-related degrees and professions. By the end of the programme, you'll leave with real-world experience, practical skills, and insight into a range of veterinary and animal science careers.



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Abbotsholme





PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

KEY DETAILS

Duration: 2 weeks

Age Range: 15 – 18 years

Residential Package: Full board in on-site boarding houses

Supervision: 24/7 pastoral care and support

What Skills are Developed?

Confidence in animal handling, examinations, and clinical care

Practical skills in surgery, anatomy, and rehabilitation techniques

Strong understanding of veterinary fields, from small animal to farm and equine practice

Communication and problem-solving skills through simulations and teamwork

University application readiness: interview practice, personal statement insight, and professional networking

PRACTICAL VETERINARY EXPERIENCE:

- **Diagnose and treat** patients as a small animal vet
- **Step into equine medicine** and see therapy techniques in action
- **Practise surgical skills** on training models to sharpen dexterity
- **Work hands-on with farm animals** alongside experienced farm vets
- **Dive into anatomy & physiology** with in-depth sessions led by veterinary physiotherapists
- **Understand the vital role of rehabilitation** in veterinary care and animal recovery



"Your future with animals starts here - practical learning, expert guidance, and unforgettable experiences."



CLINICAL INSIGHTS & SITE VISITS:

- **Explore veterinary careers** through visits to farms, clinics, and animal care centres
- **Learn from professionals** across small animal, surgery, emergency, equine, farm, and wildlife practice
- **Connect with vets** during private networking sessions

UNIVERSITY & CAREER PREPARATION:

- **Build standout experience** to boost your university applications
- **Master the admissions process:** personal statements, interviews, and more

SAMPLE TIMETABLE

Please note that this is an example and may be subject to change, but it offers a helpful glimpse into the experiences, daily structure, and activities you can expect during the Veterinary and Animal Science Summer Experience.

A final timetable of activities will be sent out prior to the course beginning.

Sunday	Arrivals day - orientation and induction				
Monday	Welcome and introduction to veterinary medicine (roles, ethics, animal welfare and the life of a vet)	Lunch	Farm experience: Handling cattle, sheep and pigs	Dinner	Welcome Disco
Tuesday	Veterinary surgery theory and workshop	Lunch	Surgical skills practical (stitching sutures & bandaging on models)	Dinner	Campus Photo challenge
Wednesday	Animal nutrition and Physiology	Lunch	Half-day visit to a rehabilitation clinic with anatomy & physiology workshop with vet physiotherapists	Dinner	Sports / Drama / Dance
Thursday	Equine vet experience: workshop and practical - anatomy, physiotherapy and lameness diagnosis	Lunch	Veterinary Careers and Pathways (UK and Global) University application and interviews masterclass	Dinner	Networking evening with professionals
Friday	Small animal consultations, examinations and diagnosis	Lunch	Clinical challenge: work through a real world vet scenario	Dinner	Disco night
Saturday	London weekend			Dinner	Overnight London hotel
Sunday	London weekend			Dinner	Movie night
Monday	Comparative anatomy: mammals, reptiles, avians Dissection workshop	Lunch	Veterinary ethics workshop	Dinner	Forest walk and Campfire
Tuesday	Workshop - Emergency and Critical Care	Lunch	First aid for animals (CPR and wound management)	Dinner	Drama workshop
Wednesday	Exotic and Wildlife Medicine workshop	Lunch	Half day visit - Wildlife park / Zoo - talk with keepers and vets	Dinner	Networking evening with professionals
Thursday	Veterinary Pharmacology & Medication	Lunch	Lab: dosage calculations, case studies and practice	Dinner	Talent show
Friday	Animal Handling workshop (small animals)	Lunch	Clinical challenge: work through a real world vet scenario	Dinner	Movie night
Saturday	Alton Towers				Farewell disco
Sunday	Departure Day				

What's included?

- All scheduled activities, workshops, and excursions
- Programme materials and resources
- Use of school facilities: farm, equestrian centre, outdoor centre, sports hall
- Pastoral care and first aid cover
- Certificate, recognition of work experience & individual feedback

Residential Package:

- Accommodation on-site
- All meals included (breakfast, lunch, dinner)
- Evening and weekend social activities



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