



Oak House Veterinary Centre



## COVID-19 update 21/9/20 Neuterings

At this stage of the Covid-19 pandemic we have now partly resumed carrying out routine neuterings- Speys in females & Castrations in males.

We are working our way through the back log that has accumulated from lock down and will discuss the timing of your pet's operation at your free pre op check. We will assess the urgency / timing of the operations on an individual case basis.

We are looking to book cats in as normal but we are having to spread out the dog & rabbit neuters due to limited space & staff availability due to the change in work practices due to Covid safe guarding..

We thank you for your patience in helping us as we work through the cases.

This is often a good time to Microchip your cat or rabbit while they are asleep.

### **Before Neutering**

If you have un-neutered male & female pets in the same household please contact us to discuss what steps need to be taken.

If you have an accidental mating please call the surgery to organise what steps need to be taken.

Non-speyed queens can start to become sexually active at any time and should be kept indoors/not allowed to go out. Young queens can become fertile from 5-6 months old, even though they still look like babies!

Long term there are important health & behavioural reasons to neuter your pets but thankfully there is a range of timings when the neuterings can be carried out to achieve these benefits.

### **Pre Neuter Check**

Normally we carry these out from 5 months old in cats & rabbits, in dogs the age of neutering can depend on the size, breed and some other factors and the vet can advise you when to book them in for the pre neuter check.

These checks are **free**, the vet will do a full health check. They will also check for dental development and make sure that the sex and anatomy are all correct e.g. make sure both testicles have descended.

The vet will discuss the pros & cons of the neutering & produce you a **full estimate** at this consult.

We also can discuss other options such as **temporary or medical neutering** as well.