

Educational memorial programme information leaflet

Donating your pet's body to SRUC's School of Veterinary Medicine

Leaving your beloved pet's body to the SRUC School of Veterinary Medicine is an extraordinarily generous decision and this information leaflet should help you decide whether it is right for you.

SRUC's School of Veterinary Medicine is devoted to training vets and veterinary nurses of the future. We aim to produce practitioners of the highest standard, and you and your pet can play a crucial role in this.

Why should I consider this?

- The use of real animals is crucial in veterinary education, in the same way as medical students study donated human bodies.
- By donating the body of your pet after its death, both you and your pet are making a positive contribution to the training of veterinary professionals, advancing animal health and welfare.

What types of pets may be donated?

- We can accept dogs, cats, rabbits and other pets which have been euthanased or died of natural causes.

What happens if I decide to proceed?

- Let your vet practice know you would like to donate your pet's body to the vet school. They will check that your pet's body is suitable for donation and ask you to complete a bequest consent form.

What happens to my pet's body once it is donated?

- Your veterinary practice will contact the School of Veterinary Medicine and we will arrange transfer to the school.

How will my pet's body be used in teaching?

- Donations are used in the teaching of anatomy, pathology and clinical skills.
- Tissue samples may also be used for clinically related research purposes.

Will my pet's body be treated with respect?

- Our staff and students are always mindful of the generosity of owners and all donations are treated with the utmost respect and care.

What happens after my pet's body has been used for teaching?

- Your pet will be cremated at an approved pet crematorium and ashes will not be returned. Cremation costs are covered by the vet school.

How can I commemorate my pet?

- Your pet will be remembered in our memorial book. You are invited to send a photograph and some memories of your pet which can be added to their entry.

If after reading this you wish to donate your pet's body to the Educational Memorial Programme, please speak to your veterinary practice. Thank you.