



THE UNIVERSITY *of* EDINBURGH

Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies

Vet School Peer Assisted Learning (VetPALS)

Welcome to the Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies! In order to help with your transition into studying at the Vet School, we have a peer support scheme called **VetPALS**.

Peer Assisted Learning (PAL) is a system of **student-to-student support** whereby students are supported in their studies by students from upper years. PAL schemes are in operation internationally and have been adopted successfully within many Universities in the UK.

PAL aims to support students through the **transition to the University of Edinburgh** whilst developing their learning and study strategies e.g exam and revision techniques, note-taking and general study skills.

The PAL session is the place where PAL 'happens'. Usually, PAL takes place in a tutorial/seminar room with a pair of Student Leaders facilitating discussion amongst a group.

PAL aims to ease academic and social transition into both university and the discipline of veterinary medicine. Each session is a chance for students to share studying problems or worries within a supportive, informal environment. PALS can often be described as *'a safe place to ask stupid questions.'*

VetPAL sessions occur throughout the first year – we will send out emails to let you know the exact dates of when the sessions are taking place but there will be roughly five each semester. The sessions are all led by fully trained VetPAL leaders from the later years of the BVM&S programme – all know what it is like to be new at University and have loads of tips and ideas to pass on. Topics range from study skills, preparing lab books, exams to EMS – all topics that first years find really useful to hear about from later year student.

All sessions are informal and very useful so please come along 😊

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