

Vanity Furr Ltd De-Matting Policy

At Vanity Furr Ltd, the welfare, safety, and comfort of the pets in our care is our highest priority. In line with the **Animal Welfare Act 2006**, we have adopted a de-matting policy to ensure we protect animals from unnecessary pain, stress, or suffering.

Why This Policy Exists

Removing mats and tangles from a pet's coat can cause pain, bruising, and skin irritation, especially if the matting is severe or close to the skin. Matted coats can also harbour parasites, trap dirt and moisture, and restrict movement, leading to serious skin and health issues.

Under the Animal Welfare Act 2006, we have a legal duty of care to protect pets from unnecessary suffering. Therefore, we will not attempt to de-matt a pet using prolonged brushing or combing methods that may cause discomfort or distress.

Our Approach

If your pet arrives with severe matting, we will:

1. Assess the condition of the coat on arrival and discuss this with you.
2. Explain that clipping off the coat is often the most humane and effective option.
3. Obtain written consent before proceeding with a clip-off.
4. Use safe, professional equipment and techniques to remove mats with minimal stress.
5. Recommend a coat maintenance routine to help avoid future matting, including brushing tips, suitable tools, and grooming frequency.

We do not clip pets for cosmetic reasons, but to prevent suffering and meet animal welfare needs.

Please Note

- Attempting to brush out tight mats can **damage the skin and cause behavioural trauma**.
- We reserve the right to refuse to dematt a coat if it would compromise your pet's welfare.
- If a clip-off is required, your pet's coat may appear patchy or very short in areas — but this is temporary and in their best interest.
- Additional charges may apply due to the time and care required for safely removing matted coats.

Owner Acknowledgement

I have read and understood the De-Matting Policy above. I understand that Vanity Furr Grooming & Training Centre will prioritise my pet's welfare and may clip off severely matted fur if necessary. I give consent for this to take place if required.

Pet's Name: _____

Owner's Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____