

Fellowship of Animal Behaviour Clinicians



Helen Zulch CCAB PhD

Helen is a veterinarian and Royal College and European Specialist in Veterinary Behavioural Medicine. She is currently the Head of Professional Development in Canine Behaviour at Dogs Trust where she has responsibility for staff education and professional development in dog behaviour and training. She is also a Visiting Fellow in the School of Life Sciences, University of Lincoln, UK and an Honorary Assistant Professor at the University of Nottingham School of Veterinary Medicine and Science. Helen has worked in the field of companion animal behaviour for over 17 years lecturing on undergraduate and postgraduate programmes, consulting for pet owners and engaging with research across a range of areas in animal behaviour, learning and cognition. She has authored books and book chapters as well as scientific articles and was instrumental in developing the Life Skills for Puppies programme.

Let's Talk Aggression: A Discussion on the Classification of Aggression in Clinical Behaviour

Aggression is the dog behaviour problem most frequently referred to behaviour consultants. In addition, aggressive behaviour is a risk to people, other animals and the dog itself, given the potential for dogs displaying aggressive behaviour to be relinquished or euthanased. However, despite numerous publications on the subject, there remains little consistency in how the behaviour is defined and classified in the clinical sphere. This inconsistency means that it can be challenging to draw clinically relevant conclusions from published literature or to move the research field forward. This talk will explore some of the problems in the current approach to talking about aggression and make some suggestions as to how, as a profession, we can be clearer and more precise.