Hi,

I'm Suzy, your Programme Manager. I'll be here throughout your course to support you in all aspects of your academic life, assisting with study skills, decisions about what you study and careers advice. I'll teach modules that you'll study too, so we'll see each other regularly.

I'm a Registered Equine Veterinary Nurse with experience in all aspects of veterinary nursing and a specific interest in surgical nursing and pharmacy management. I've been working at Hartpury since January 2014 and prior to this worked in both mixed and equine practice for a number of years.

The veterinary nursing programme team are really looking forward to welcoming you to Hartpury. In the meantime, please feel free to get in touch if you have any questions at all. See you in September!

Before you arrive

Make sure you have the right kit
For your course, you'll need a laboratory coat, plus suitable outdoor footwear and a warm coat for animal handling practicals, including those scheduled at the Equine Yard. A riding hat and gloves will also be needed if you are spending additional time on the Equine Yard if you choose to volunteer there. Pens, paper and files are also essential.

During term time, Hartpury clothing can be ordered on the online shop www.hartpury.ac.uk/clothing-shop. Samples will be available to view and purchase during Welcome Week. Please ensure you leave your name as a reference for the purchase if someone else is paying for your kit so we can contact you when it arrives.

Do some reading around the subject
There are some text books that would be of use throughout your course. You’re not expected to purchase these text books before arrival, but may wish to choose one or two from the list below:

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<th>Recommended books</th>
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Our University Learning Centre stocks several loan copies and at least one reference copy of any books you are required to read during your course. You may wish to start off by borrowing these, and then deciding to purchase any that are used across a number of modules.

If you decide to purchase text books, you’ll find a list of all recommended texts here www.booksyouneed.co.uk/collegegroup/13-
Select your programme and a full list of recommended texts will be shown. Booksyouneed offer a reduced Course Centre Delivery price. If you order selecting this option by early September, your books will be ready for collection during Residential Welcome Day and Welcome Week.

**Budgeting for those extras**

In order to complete this degree, you need to be aware of the additional costs of enrolment with the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons (the RCVS). Whilst undertaking your training to become a Registered Veterinary Nurse, you’re required to enrol as a student veterinary nurse.

**Car parking**

You’ll need to buy a car parking permit to park in our campus car parks. This costs £50 for the year. You can get yours from our online shop or during Welcome Week. It’s really important that you do get your permit, otherwise you’ll receive a warning sticker on your window which is difficult to remove.

**International events**

There are a variety of national and international equine events running over the summer. These are a fantastic opportunity to volunteer and gain some hands-on experience behind the scenes.

The Festival of Dressage in July. A horse lover’s dream, this event hosts some of the world’s best dressage riders. Saturday evening’s Gala Event is perhaps the highlight. [www.hartpuryfestivalofdressage.co.uk](http://www.hartpuryfestivalofdressage.co.uk)

The Showjumping Spectacular in July. See up-and-coming showjumping stars and enjoy a jam-packed schedule of classes jumping up to 1.50 metres high. [www.hartpuryshowjumpingspectacular.co.uk](http://www.hartpuryshowjumpingspectacular.co.uk)

The NAF Five Star International Hartpury Horse Trials enables you to experience world class eventing up close and personal. Enjoy some of eventing’s biggest names for five days of top-class equestrian sport. It’s a fast paced few days including dressage, cross country and showjumping. [www.hartpuryhorsetrials.co.uk](http://www.hartpuryhorsetrials.co.uk)

**Arriving at Hartpury: enrolment day**

Your programme starts with enrolment day on Tuesday 18 September. Your Programme Manager will meet you outside Red & Black café at 10.15am. You’ll receive your timetable for the week and have the opportunity to get to know the programme team, your new classmates and the campus. Your enrolment day provides a relaxed introduction to your programme before formal teaching starts on Monday 24 September.

You’re required to bring your original examination certificates (including your GCSEs and your level 3 qualifications) and a form of photo identification to your enrolment day on Tuesday 18 September. This is so we can start the process of enrolling you as a Student Veterinary Nurse with the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons.

Monday 17 September is the start of Freshers’ Week, kicked off by a live band in the Hartpury Bar and the start of a legendary Fresher’s experience. Check the Freshers’ page on our website to find out what we’ve got planned.

**And then the work starts**

Teaching will start on Monday 24 September 2018. You’ll get a copy of your timetable on Enrolment Day. In the first year, you’ll study a range of compulsory modules to provide an introduction to veterinary nursing and to prepare you for going onto placement. Each week, you’ll have timetabled lectures and practical sessions (usually in the Veterinary Nursing Clinical Skills Centre, laboratory, in the animal house, or at the equine centre). You’ll also have work to do, such as preparatory reading, writing assignments or revising for exams, so you should expect to work hard towards your course.

There’ll also be a session once a week with your personal tutor, when you’ll get support developing your study skills. This is essential to help you find your way around published material, assignment presentation, revision skills and careers advice. Your tutor will also meet with you individually on a regular basis to see how you’re getting on.

**Making the most of your degree**

This course gives you the veterinary nursing knowledge and skills essential for safe and effective practice and will develop your skills of enquiry and reflection required for lifelong professional learning and development. Completion of this qualification will make you eligible to register with the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons and practice as a Veterinary Nurse.

This programme will, in addition to the above, develop your personal transferable skills, a key reason why Hartpury graduates have successful employment rates. Throughout your years at Hartpury, you’ll be assigned a personal tutor who’ll guide you through the university process. They’ll be available for help and advice on module choices, general career ambitions and academic processes.

Study support will be offered via your personal tutor and the Achievement and Success team who’ll assist you with skills to make the most of your potential. Our Innovation, Careers and Enterprise centre provides assistance, guidance and opportunities to help you to build your CV and prepare for your future career. We’re committed to developing our graduates and provide a programme of workshops and enrichment activities to help develop academic skills and employability.

There are also lots of opportunities to get involved in additional activities on-site. We have a working farm, the animal collection,
the canine and equine therapy centres, and the equine yard. These opportunities will be advertised at the appropriate time, so 
look out for them on Moodle or in lectures so that you don’t miss out.

Remote learning
Alongside your full-time job in veterinary practice, you’ll attend lectures at Hartpury one day per week (Tuesdays in your first year). 
You’ll also be required to complete between three and five hours of remote learning per week. You remote learning will consist 
of a range of activities including completing e-learning packages, contributing to discussion forums, searching for literature and 
reading. Your engagement with the remote learning activities will be carefully monitored so you need to make sure that you 
complete all activities each week.

Dreams start here
The following illustrates the modules that you’ll complete during your time as a student. Modules are subject to change.

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<tr>
<th>CAREERS</th>
<th>Semester 1 Compulsory modules</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Level 1</td>
<td>DPS Anatomy for Veterinary Nurses&lt;br&gt;DPS Animal Husbandry for Veterinary Nurses&lt;br&gt;DPS Academic Skills for Veterinary Nurses</td>
<td>DPS Patient Care for Veterinary Nurses&lt;br&gt;DPS Diagnostics for Veterinary Nurses&lt;br&gt;DPS Professional Skills for Veterinary Nurses</td>
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<tr>
<td>Level 2</td>
<td>DPS Patient Care (continued from year 1 semester 2)&lt;br&gt;DPS Diagnostics for Veterinary Nurses (continued from year 1 semester 2)&lt;br&gt;DPS Pharmacy Management for Veterinary Nurses</td>
<td>DPS Surgical Veterinary Nursing&lt;br&gt;DPS Anaesthesia for Veterinary Nurses&lt;br&gt;DPS Equine Veterinary Nursing</td>
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How do I join the Sports Academy?
If you would like to represent one of the Academy Sports at Hartpury in the 2018/19 season, you must become a member of the 
Sports Academy.

The cost of the Sports Academy membership fee for a HE student is £220 a year (this also includes a free student gym membership 
for the year). The gym membership alone (if you don’t want to become a Sports Academy member) is £100 per year.

How do I purchase a Hartpury sports kit?
Visit the Hartpury online shop www.hartpury.ac.uk/clothing-shop. Here you can purchase the kit relevant to your course or sport.

Final word… top tips from those who know
“It would be good to volunteer at the farm or therapy centre on campus - it looks great on your CV.”

“Make the most of your student experience.”

“Studying to be a veterinary nurse requires hard work, dedication and a professional attitude, but the reward is an exciting, fulfilling 
career at the end of it!”