

Focus Dogs



Learning through games

What are the benefits of a 1-1 Puppy Course instead of a group puppy course?

We have coached both so we will try and be as honest and objective as possible.

1-1 Puppy Class:

- ✓ Safe environment for you and your puppy (at your house).
- ✓ It is so more relaxing and in turn can create a great learning environment.
- ✓ Less distraction for pup, more chance of engaging with pup.
- ✓ No possibility of environment being overwhelming for pup by presence of other pups, some pups find group sessions just way too exciting or in some cases a little scary.
- ✓ If you are a 1st time pup owner there is a lot to take in and learn, if you are an experienced owner you may never have adopted this newer style of dog training. In either case it takes us time to feel comfortable in what to do and how best to help pup. So the 1-1 setting really helps with this.
- ✓ You are free to ask questions at any time during the session without fear of being seen as 'needy' or 'the owner who takes up the instructors time' with questions in a group setting.
- ✓ Increased amount of time to practice during the session with the instructor always watching you and your pup ready to help at anytime.
- ✓ Personal feedback and bespoke goals set to suit you and your pup not a collective goal as in a group.
- ✓ More variety of exercises in session as only 1 pup, as opposed to another 5 having to do exercises.
- ✓ Time spent waiting around to do something is zero on a 1-1.
- ✓ You get money's worth on a 1-1 course.

Group Puppy Class:

- ✓ Cheaper, may suit certain budgets.
- ✓ Chance for pup to meet other pups.
- ✓ Can be a social event for the owners, friendships can be formed.
- ✓ Can be very noisy.
- ✓ Can be overwhelming and scary for some pups.
- ✓ Handler often so worried about their pup's behaviour, due to it being over excited or scared that they become self-conscious, stressed themselves and then often can't hear what the Instructor is saying or misses seeing the demonstration. This can add to the frustration level.
- ✓ Due to at least 6 pups enrolled on a group class the Instructor works on their own. The instruction given at times becomes diluted due to the pressure of time and number of pups, the instruction can be rushed as the Instructor tries to get each pup to perform an exercise.
- ✓ Some handlers feel a sense of just standing around waiting to be helped by the instructor.
- ✓ At times if there are just 1 or more pups that demand a little more attention from the Instructor, the other pups are often not given as much coaching.
- ✓ In some group puppy classes there is a one rule fits all approach to coaching the pups, which can be damaging to some pups given each pup is an individual.

Finally, I believe some customers choose group puppy sessions for 2 reasons.

1. Cost and

2. Their pup socialises with other pups.

Cost ... You simply pay for what you get. Sometimes you pay cheap you pay twice.

Socialisation: Any good puppy class do not allow the pups to continually play with each other. It is not a puppy party. You can easily go along to your local Vets to ask about their locally held puppy meets at their clinic. Puppy Classes should not be about 'socialisation'....this word means so much more than your pup meeting another pup.

We do hope this has helped you consider the pros and cons of each option. Feel free to contact us if you have any further questions. Thank you.