

# It's okay to say no!

We are going to look at training vs behavioural but, as always, this can apply to most of the industry.

We often feel pressured to take on cases that are outside of our comfort zone, or to do things that make us feel uneasy.



## **1. Feeling uncomfortable**

It is okay to turn down a job you feel uncomfortable with doing. It may be that you have just started, it is a more severe behavioural issue, or that you only specialise in certain areas.

## **2. Mentoring**

Did you know there are many exceptional trainers and behaviourists who will happily mentor those wanting to increase their knowledge or skill sets. This way, you can still learn while reducing the risk of doing something that could potentially set the dog back, or impact on your safety. I am currently mentoring a number of exceptional dog walkers and trainers, keen to understand more about behaviour. They know that they are not behaviourists, but they want to learn more about the journey to becoming one.

## **3. We all start somewhere**

Somebody recently told me: "We all have to start somewhere" and, while this is true, please do not walk into a job you are not 100% confident about, without seeking the advice from your peers.

## **4. Be a sponge**

Soak up knowledge and look for learning opportunities. Get your CPD from a variety of sources.

## **5. What is your passion and special subject?**

I always recommend general 'broad learning' for further understanding but, at the same time, you can't help everyone. By niching down, you can focus on a particular passion and really become the expert.

## **6. Learn from each other**

The beauty of this group is that there are so many different experts in different areas. Be open to listening to them and understanding their journey.