

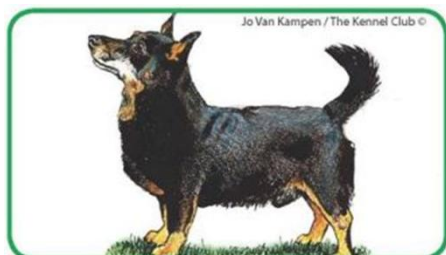
The Kennel Club Health Standard

An overview for Lancashire Heeler Breeders and Owners

Health Testing

All relevant tests in one place

Provides clear guidance on the relevant tests to undertake before breeding. Based on evidence in the Breed Health and Conservation Plans.



Who's It For?

Primarily for Breeders

Breeders should consider health test results alongside temperament, conformation and genetic diversity.

It is also a useful resource for puppy buyers, assisting them to identify puppies from tested parents.

Two Kennel Club Categories

Good & Best Practice

Good practice tests have strong evidence and are the minimum level of testing expected.

Best practice tests are considered critical for Lancashire Heelers.

Remember: not all health conditions can be tested for. "Health tested" does not mean the same as "healthy".



Evolving Evidence

Priorities Can Change

As new or more detailed evidence emerges, the Health Standard will be reviewed and updated.

Breed priorities may change as health conditions are addressed or new ones are identified and as new health tests are developed.

Lancashire Heelers

Guidance

The Lancashire Heeler Health Standard provides specific guidance for the breed.

- 🐕 BVA/KC/ISDA Eye Scheme
- 🐕 DNA Test – Primary Lens Luxation (PLL)
- 🐕 DNA Test – Collie Eye Anomaly/Choroidal Hypoplasia (CEA/CH)



For further information can be found by visiting

www.lancashireheelerclub.co.uk & www.thekennelclub.org.uk/health-standard

The Kennel Club Health Standard

An overview for Lancashire Heeler Breeders and Owners

The Kennel Club Health Standard was introduced in January 2025 to promote good breeding practice and increase the uptake of health testing before breeding. It provides guidance to breeders whatever their level of experience and helps puppy buyers to know the key health tests to consider for their chosen breed.

Good Practice	Best Practice
BVA/KC/ISDA Eye Scheme	DNA Test – Primary Lens Luxation (PLL)
	DNA Test – Collie Eye Anomaly/Choroidal Hypoplasia (CEA/CH)

Good practice tests have strong evidence and are the minimum level expected.

The Lancashire Heeler Breed Clubs and their appointed Kennel Club Breed Health Coordinator will only recommend breeders that perform **all** health testing.

Many of these breeders also check patella's too, please ask for details.

www.lancashireheelerclub.co.uk/breeders

www.lancashireheelerassociation.com/breeders

KC/BVA Eye Scheme

Eye screening should be carried out annually under the BVA/KC/ISDA Eye Scheme. It is recommended that examinations should be within 12 months prior to the date of mating of both dog and bitch to allow breeders to be aware of any conditions affecting their dog.

Genetic Diversity

The Lancashire Heeler is recognised by the Kennel Club as a Vulnerable Breed as a result there are particular challenges around genetic diversity with a small gene pool that must be considered when making breeding decisions.

All breeders should utilise the KC's inbreeding coefficient (COI) calculator and genetic diversity resources to assist them in making balanced breeding decisions.

Breeders should always take into consideration the number of generations used to produce the COI calculation, whether dogs have been imported recently within the lines and the number of offspring already sired by the male dog.

Useful links for Lancashire Heeler owners

The Lancashire Heeler Club: www.lancashireheelerclub.co.uk – advice for buyers & owners

Lancashire Heeler Association: www.lancashireheelerassociation.com – advice for buyers & owners

The Kennel Club Health Standard: www.thekennelclub.org.uk/health-standard

The British Veterinary Association Eye Scheme: www.bva.co.uk/canine-health/eye-scheme

The Canine Genetics Centre DNA Testing: www.cagt.co.uk

The Lancashire Heeler Pedigree Database: www.lancashireheelers.nl/pedigree

The Kennel Club Inbreeding Calculator: www.thekennelclub.org.uk/inbreeding-co-efficient

The Kennel Club Health Test Results Finder: www.thekennelclub.org.uk/health-test-results-finder

The Kennel Club Welfare Standard: www.thekennelclub.org.uk/codes/welfare-standard

The Kennel Club Dog Breeding Regulations: www.thekennelclub.org.uk/dog-breeding-regulations