



On the 5<sup>th</sup> of March we (Hamish's News Hounds) went to Hamish's groomers, Not for Cats in Whiteley. We were very excited because we had lots of questions to ask and we were looking forward to watching Samson the Labradoodle being groomed. We found out lots of information.



Dogs are groomed every six to eight weeks. If you don't groom a dog for six to eight weeks their fur can get a little messy or it might matt. Matt means a big chunk of their hair gets tangled up like ours does when we get out of the bath. At Not For Cats they groom all sorts of breeds like: Cockapoos, Springer Spaniels and lots more. Every breed has to have a certain look, such as Poodles and Chihuahuas. It costs £35-£45 for a mixed breed dog to be washed, groomed and blow dried. They use different brushes for different dogs, slicker and de-shedding brushes. Unfortunately, the bad part is that sometimes they might find little or big fleas on dogs. When they find fleas they have to be careful in case they get them on another dog. They use a special shampoo to get rid of them, also they have to wash the tools that they use on the dogs. Mostly, dogs like being groomed, especially when it comes to the hair drier. Some dogs find it

more calming if the groomer (Kayleigh) talks to them or maybe puts the radio on or gives them treats.



We asked Kayleigh lots of questions about Hamish. He visits Not For Cats every few months to have his hair cut and washed. Hamish doesn't like being groomed but he doesn't mind being bathed. It takes an hour and a half to groom his curly fur. The groomer (Kayleigh) uses a special brush to groom Hamish, it is hard to groom his curly fur. If she finds a knot in his fur and she can't brush it out, she cuts it out so that he doesn't get irritated or hurt. She uses special tools for his feet. Hamish likes being dried because he knows it's the end and he can go home. Kayleigh has groomed Hamish for two years so she knows him well. Because he doesn't like being groomed she talks to him lots and tries to give him treats, surprisingly he won't eat them until the end. Kayleigh has dogs of her own so she knows lots about dogs.



After watching Samson being groomed, we had £10 to spend on Hamish and it was a bit hard to choose so we had to have a vote on what to get, so we finally decided and got Hamish a new collar and some treats! We were very excited to give them to him when we got back to school.



We had a wonderful time at the groomers (Not for cats) and we have learnt some great facts. If you need to buy some supplies for your dog or your dog needs grooming, Not For Cats is the place to go.



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