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# Foster Care Information

THANK YOU FOR YOUR INTEREST IN  
FOSTERING FOR THE CAT PROTECTION SOCIETY!



Throughout the year, but particularly from spring to autumn, many kittens are surrendered to the Cat Protection Society that are too small to be re-homed. These range from the newly born, to those that are a few weeks old.

Cats have been raising kittens without much assistance from humans for thousands of years, and things usually go along just fine if the queen can handle her kittens on her own. However, for a variety of reasons, many kittens end up at our cattery before they have been fully weaned and need some human guidance.

At the CPS, we can't always provide the loving home environment or the time that kittens need to thrive. So where possible, they are placed with foster carers until they reach the stage where they are ready to be desexed and re-homed.

We usually seek foster carers for kittens that are between 4 and 8 weeks old, as these kittens are usually eating on their own and therefore are easier to care for. The first few times you foster for us, you will start off with older kittens that only need a few weeks or some extra socialisation.

Before you sign up and get your first litter of kittens, you need to ask yourself a few questions:

- How much time each day can you commit to caring for the kittens?
- Do you have a suitable room in your home where the kittens can live that is: enclosed, quiet, safe and separate from your other pets?
- Do you have your own transport to bring the kittens to and from the cattery and also to and from the vet if necessary?

## What we provide:

- Food and litter
- Medical costs if required **as long as they go to one of our vets and you contact CPS before they go.**
- Bedding and toys can be provided as well, but need to be returned with the kittens, as CPS does not have surplus amounts of these items.

Fostering is wonderfully rewarding, but it also involves a lot of hard work and commitment. Not

surprisingly, many people form an emotional bond with the kittens that they foster and find it very hard to return them when they are old enough. Before you start fostering you need to think very carefully about how you will feel when it's time to bring them back.

Overall, watching kittens develop is a rare opportunity and a sense of (well-deserved) achievement and pride is found when you know you have saved a life and helped create a balanced and loving young cat!

## What you need to provide:

- Ideally, our foster carers are at home for much of the day so that the kittens can get the regular meals they need. They also need to get used to being handled as much as possible so that they mature into good pets.
  - Kittens need to be kept in a quiet household so that they do not become nervous or timid.
  - If you have other pets you will need to provide a separate secure room for the kittens, such as a laundry. It is best that you do not mix the foster kittens with your pets at all. If you do already have a cat, we ask that you make sure your cats vaccinations are fully up to date before going ahead.
  - You will need to keep track of how much the kittens weigh so that they can come back at the right time, therefore you will need a set of scales such as those used in cooking.
  - You may have to buy chicken if the kittens get diarrhoea. CPS does not cover the cost of this.
  - We do recommend that you have your tetanus shot up to date before you start fostering.
  - You will need your own transport to pick up the kittens from CPS and bring them back.
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**Important Points to Remember:**

- The kittens are at all times the property of CPS. If a foster carer decides that they want to keep a particular kitten, the kitten **MUST** be returned to the cattery and be desexed etc. through us. The carer will be asked to contribute towards the cost of the veterinary work done.
- CPS must be kept informed of the kittens' progress regularly and if there are any problems, CPS needs to be told before the kitten goes to the vet.
- Kittens can very easily become ill if the feeding regime is not adhered to strictly. If your kittens have diarrhoea, or show any other symptoms of illness, you **MUST** call the Cat Protection Society straight away. In some cases, kittens can deteriorate very quickly without the correct treatment; so don't be afraid to call if you are worried.
- For optimum health, it is important to keep up to date with flea and worm treatments – a Treatment Record is provided when you take the kittens.
- If there are any problems (no matter how small) we are only a phone call away, and are always happy to give advice. If there is something you're not sure about please give us a call.

**Foster carers really are greatly appreciated and do genuinely help save many lives by generously giving their time and efforts.**

If you are interested in becoming a foster carer please fill out this form and send it back to:

Foster Care Coordinator  
103 Enmore Road, Newtown NSW 2042

**MANY THANKS FROM CPS!**



**CPS FOSTER CARE VOLUNTEER APPLICATION FORM**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number: (h) \_\_\_\_\_  
(m) \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Previous Kitten Experience: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Do you work away from home? If so, for how many hours each day?  
\_\_\_\_\_

What other pets do you have in your home?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Do you have your own car? \_\_\_\_\_

**Please sign to show that you have read and understood the attached information and conditions.**

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Once you have completed this form please return it to 103 Enmore Road, Newtown NSW 2042. We will contact you for a house inspection and training.

**Cat Protection Society:** Phone: 02 9557 4818  
Fax: 02 9557 8052

**103 Enmore Road  
NEWTOWN NSW 2042**

**Email:** [info@catprotection.org.au](mailto:info@catprotection.org.au)

**Website:** [www.catprotection.org.au](http://www.catprotection.org.au)