

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 are therefore easier to care for. The first few times that 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?

What We Provide

- Food and litter
- Medical costs if required as long as they go to one of our vets and you contact us before they go
- Bedding and toys can be provided as well but these items need to be returned as the cattery does not have an endless supply.



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 that your cat's 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, and so you will need a set of scales such as those used in cooking
- You may have to buy chicken or mince if the kittens get diarrhea. The cost of this is not covered by the CPS
- 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 the CPS and bring them back

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** return to the cattery and be desexed etc through us. The carer will be asked to contribute towards the cost of the veterinary work done.
- We must be kept informed of the kittens progress regularly and if there are any problems we need to be told before they are taken to vet.
- Kittens can very easily get ill if the feeding regime is not adhered to strictly. If your kittens have diarrhea, or show any other symptoms of illness, you **MUST** call a Cat Protection staff member straight away. In some cases they can go down hill very quickly without the correct treatment, so don't be afraid to ring if you are worried.
- For optimum health, it is important to keep up to date with flea and worm treatments – a Treatment Record for this will be 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 are not sure about please give us a call.

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

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

Georgina Smith Foster Care Program,
103 Enmore Rd, Newtown NSW 2042

Or

georgina@catprotection.org.au

MANY THANKS FROM THE CPS!



**CPS FOSTER CARE VOLUNTEER
APPLICATION FORM**

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone Number (h) _____

(m) _____

E-mail: _____

Kitten Experience (previous): _____

Do you work away from home? If so, for how long each day? _____

What other pets do you have in the home? _____

Do you have your own transport? _____

**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 Rd, Newtown 2042.**

Foster carer intakes occur approximately every 3-4 weeks

We will contact you for a house inspection and training

**Cat Protection Society
103 Enmore Rd
NEWTOWN 2042
E-Mail:
Website:**

Phone: 9557 4818
Fax: 9557 8052

info@catprotection.org.au
www.catprotection.org.au