



THE NATIONAL ANIMAL TRUST

Registered Charity No 243707
Founded in 1965 by Daisy Murcott

ROLE DESCRIPTION FOR VOLUNTEER FOSTERERS

Operating in Leicester and Leicestershire, The National Animal Trust is a local registered charity run solely by volunteers. As well as promoting responsible pet ownership, we have two principal aims. Firstly, we take into care for rehoming cats and kittens that are either unwanted, straying, abandoned, or from owners who can no longer keep them due to a change in circumstances. We do not run a cattery but place our cats and kittens with volunteer foster homes until new permanent homes can be found. When finding new homes, our goal is to ensure that we match the right cat or kitten to the most suitable home, where it is going to be secure and wanted for life and, above all, where it is going to be loved and considered as a companion in a home, not just a pet in a house. Secondly, we operate a neutering scheme, providing assistance for the spaying or neutering of privately owned cats where owners are experiencing problems having this carried out (such as being unable to afford the full cost).

The role of a volunteer fosterer for The National Animal Trust includes the following:

- Take into your own home on a temporary basis a cat(s) and/or kitten(s) provided by and belonging to The National Animal Trust in line with our rehoming policy.
- Provide a safe environment and loving atmosphere for the cat(s) and/or kitten(s) to live in until The National Animal Trust finds new permanent homes.
- Feed, keep clean, give medication, groom, keep secure and generally care for the cat(s) and/or kitten(s) to the highest possible standards and in line with The National Animal Trust's procedures. The National Animal Trust will provide everything for the care of the cat(s) and/or kitten(s) such as food, cat litter, medication, etc.
- Arrange for potential new owners who have been put in contact with you by The National Animal Trust to visit your home to view the cat(s) and/or kitten(s) for the purpose of adoption.
- Complete all necessary paperwork required to carry out the above tasks and to deal with any associated donations as directed by The National Animal Trust.

MAIN REQUIREMENTS

- As well as a love of cats, a basic knowledge and experience of owning cats is desirable, as volunteer fosterers will have to handle cats and kittens, including giving medication and treating for fleas and worms, and will regularly be asked to provide feedback on temperament, general health, etc.
- To ensure the cats and kittens remain in a secure environment and also to ensure any resident cats or other pets are not exposed unnecessarily to stress, illness, etc, a separate living area is essential for the foster cats and kittens to live in whilst in care, such as a spare room or suitable outside accommodation. Whilst in the care of The National Animal Trust, cats and kittens must not be allowed to roam outside.
- All National Animal Trust cats and kittens have a thorough veterinary health check prior to being placed in a foster home, however, it is strongly advised that a fosterer's own cats are fully inoculated against cat flu, enteritis and feline leukaemia. Fosterers should discuss with their own veterinary surgeon the need for this.

