

# HOME HELP

## THE HOME'S KITTEN SEASON IS FAST APPROACHING WHEN THE CATTERY FILLS UP WITH PREGNANT MOTHER CATS AND THEIR VUNERABLE OFFSPRING.

In order to give them the best start in life the Home tries to place as many as possible with our Kitten Fosterers. The mother cat usually gives birth in the Home's cattery and then, when the kittens are about a week old, the mother cat and her kittens go to the Fosterer's home. There they can be safe and quiet and get used to human company and playing with toys. Potential adopters go to view the foster kittens at about 6 weeks old and they will be ready to go to their new home at 9 weeks. The system works very well and produces well balanced, friendly kittens who will have no trouble fitting into a new environment.



If you are experienced with cats and feel you could provide a foster home for kittens, the Home would love to hear from you as they are in constant need of new fosterers especially through the summer months. There are certain requirements which would have to met .

- We would like you to live within 30 minutes drive of the Home.
- Have your own transport for visits to our vets.
- Not be in rented accommodation.
- Have a secure spare room where, if you have other pets, you will be able to keep the kittens separate from them.
- You will need to be at home at regular intervals throughout the day so that the kittens are not 'alone' for lengthy periods.
- Time to socialise and play with them.
- You will need to be able to keep them for up to 9 weeks.

The Home will provide you with all the food that the mother cat and kittens need plus their feeding bowls. A carry basket; bed and bedding; litter tray and bags of litter; scratching post and toys will also be provided. The kittens will get routine veterinary care, advice and treatment including worm and flea applications.

This is rewarding work and it is such a joy to watch the kittens grow and develop and to help the mother cat raise her kittens to be happy and confident. You will also know that you have played an important role in their early lives and make it so much easier for the Home to find that special 'forever' home for them.

If you are interested in being a Fosterer you will need to complete a Volunteer Application Form and have a meeting with our Rehoming Manager. Contact **Pauline Exon on 01225 787321.**