

# Adoption Policy Guidelines

Thank you for your interest in giving one of our animals a loving home. Please read our guidelines carefully to help guide you towards the best choice of rescue pet for you.

Our guidelines have been determined by our values to ensure our animals are rehomed by responsible and caring owners. Our values have been guided by the 5 freedoms outlined in the Animal Welfare Act (2006). These are freedom from hunger and thirst, freedom from discomfort, freedom from pain, injury and disease, freedom to express normal behaviour, with the proper space and facilities and with human companionship or companionship of their own kind and freedom from fear, distress and mental suffering.

1. Adopters must be over the age of 18 and in some cases over the age of 21 (for guarding dog breeds)
2. Adopters living within a 15 mile radius of our centre at Middle Lane, Kings Norton, B38 0DU will be prioritised in order for our animal carers to make home visits.
3. Everyone in the household must be in favour of the new animal becoming part of your family.
4. Adults (not children) must be the primary carers for all of our animals, including small animals such as rabbits and guinea pigs.
5. Unfortunately we are unable to rehome animals in homes with children under the age of 3 for the health and safety of the child and the animal.
6. Unfortunately we are unable to rehome animals in homes if anyone in the household suffers from allergies or phobias.
7. We do not re-home dogs to be used for guarding, breeding or anything other than as a family pet.
8. Dogs cannot be rehomed where they are left on their own for more than 4 hours on a regular basis.
9. Some animals may be suitable to be rehomed with other animals but this may not always be preferable. If we feel it is appropriate we will arrange controlled introductions between your potential new pet and your current pets to see how they interact and where appropriate support with the bonding process (both prior to and post adoption).
10. If you already have a dog we require that it is fully vaccinated and neutered.
11. You agree to get kittens or puppies neutered if you adopt them from us before they are old enough for us to have had them neutered. Bitches should be neutered after their first season as recommended by a vet.
12. All rabbits and male guinea pigs should be neutered, female guinea pigs aren't normally neutered as it's a difficult operation, ferrets should also be neutered. Very small mammals such as hamsters, gerbils and mice aren't neutered but opposite sexes need to be kept apart to prevent breeding.
13. If you already have a rabbit and wish it to bond with one of ours we require proof of its vaccination against myxomatosis and RHD before the process begins.
14. We carry out home checks prior to rehoming an animal with you to ensure that you have the appropriate arrangements in place to look after the animal properly in a safe and secure environment. We are not inspecting your house. We like to ensure adopters have suitable accommodation for the animal concerned (e.g. suitable hutch/run for a rabbit, or secure garden for a dog to exercise) and to chat to you about your knowledge and experience of looking after the type of animal you would like to adopt and the specific needs of the animal you are interested in. This process will help you decide about the suitability of the animal for your family and life style.
15. We require secure 6' high fencing in gardens for dogs.
16. We do not rehome cats close to busy roads or railway lines for safety reasons

## Wythall Animal Rescue

Middle Lane | Kings Norton | Birmingham | B38 0DU | Tel. 01564 823288

Web: [www.wythallanimalrescue.org](http://www.wythallanimalrescue.org) | Email: [info@wythallanimalrescue.org](mailto:info@wythallanimalrescue.org)

17. Unfortunately we can only admit visitors to look at our cats if they haven't been to another cat rescue on the same day to prevent the potential spread of infection on clothing.
18. We can only rehome animals in rented accommodation with written proof from the landlord that this is permitted.
19. We may carry out up to three home-checks for animals which we have several enquiries for to find the best possible match for the family and the animal concerned.
20. We recommend new owners take out third party insurance cover for their new pets.et (we can offer 4 weeks free insurance via our partner PetPlan)
21. Adopters must also agree that we can keep in touch for the rest of the animal's life. A follow up call or visit will be arranged after the adoption to help support you as a new owner.
22. New owners are not allowed to re-home animals themselves and the animals must be returned to Wythall Animal Rescue if the adopter is no longer able to take care of them.
23. Our non-refundable adoption fees are as follows which includes a full health check, animal specific vaccinations and neutering as appropriate: Dog Adoption £180; Cat Adoption £75; Kitten Adoption £65; Rabbit Adoption £50; Guinea Pig Adoption neutered £35; Guinea Pig Adoption entire £20, Ferret Adoption neutered £50, Ferret Adoption entire £40, Cockatiels and other small bird Adoption £15.

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