



COVID-19 ADOPTIONS POLICY FOR NEW ZEALAND CHIHUAHUA RESCUE TRUST

Thank you for your interest in adopting from NZ Chihuahua Rescue! We want to be able to continue doing our good work, rescuing, rehabilitating and adopting out dogs to loving families, but the safety of you and our team is paramount. The below is our COVID-19 adoptions policy.

Please note: These arrangements are not ideal, but these meet/greets will be just for you, as the Adopter to see the dog in person, ask any questions about the foster dog and try (as best as possible) to decide whether you are interested in a trial. Of course, they are also for the foster parent to also meet the Adopter, ask any questions in return and determine whether they think a trial would be successful.

*If you have any questions, comments, or suggestions, please email us:
contact@nzchihuahuarescue.co.nz*

MEET AND GREET:

1. **If you are feeling unwell with COVID-like symptoms, or someone in your household is unwell and/or self-isolating, please inform us as soon as practicable and we can reschedule the meet/greet. We have asked our foster carers to ensure the same. Safety is the priority and we can reschedule the meet/greet.**
2. We advise that you sanitize your hands thoroughly, both prior and after the meet/greet.
3. You and the foster carer should agree to meet at either a local park, or, if you have a back yard that can be accessed without the foster carer going into the home, you may opt to conduct the meet and greet outside there (open spaces are preferable – but will be weather permitting).
4. Please ensure that you wear a face mask. If you are exempt, please advise us prior. We also ask that you observe social distancing measures where possible.
5. Please limit the amount of people in attendance to the meet/greet. Bring only your immediate family members that reside with you. We always recommend foster carers bring at least one other person, and this may be a Trustee of the trust. They will also be masked and social distancing.
6. You may also wish to bring any current dogs you have (on lead) also. But prior to the appointment, please keep your dog in the car, or inside the house initially, so you can meet the foster dog alone, first, without it being overwhelmed.

7. The foster dog will be on a leash. The dog can greet you and/or interact personally if both parties agree. But please do be aware that the more contact between the two of you and the dog, the more the risk of exposure to COVID-19.
8. We recommend using the NZ COVID tracer application from the Ministry of Health. After the meet/greet, we ask that you use the “add diary entry” function on your Covid QR scanner application and note down the park address and who was in attendance.
9. If the team feels that unfortunately, you are not the correct match for the dog, the Trust will be in touch to confirm the same. Please remember: we often have several lovely families applying and only one dog to rehome. We ask you treat our team members with patience and respect, even if it can be disappointing to hear you are not selected.

If the foster carer and/or Trustee(s) feel that you are a good match for the prospective dog, we move on to the home check requirement...

HOME CHECKS:

10. If the meet/greet was not conducted at your house, and all goes well - the next step is for the foster carer to complete a home check.
11. We will need to do a (contact less) property inspection. If you and the foster carer agree, this can be on the same day as the meet/greet at the park, or another day. We expect that the home check should take less than 10-15minutes ideally (unless rural). Please ensure the team member has access to your back yard and wait inside or from a distance.
12. Our foster carer will walk the perimeter of the property and look at the fencing and gates. Please ensure that any issues you are aware of, have been rectified prior to the home check being organized. The team member will look for holes, gaps, clutter or anything else that may be a safety issue or allow the dog to escape.
13. If the foster carer notices any issues, they will communicate them to you either on the day, or via email or phone with an overview of what needs correcting (ie. Large gaps under a gate, holes in a fence etc). They will also report back to our Trustees.
14. If there are any issues, once rectified – we ask that you confirm via email and forward a photo.

DROP OFF ARRANGEMENTS FOR DOGS GOING ON TRIAL:

15. Assuming the home check is fine, or any issues are corrected, we can begin the trial arrangements. Our Managing Trustee will email you to confirm and send a copy of our Adoption Manual and Trial Agreement. The same policy is in place in terms of the fact that PRIOR to the trial, the adoption fee needs to be paid by you into the Trust account and the Trial Agreement signed and returned. All of the documentation is always emailed, so no handling of paper is required.

16. We also continue to ask Adopters make a deposit of the adoption fee into the trust account so we can avoid handling any cash.
17. On the date of changeover, the foster carer will take the dog's items and place these on the doorstep of your home. They will hand over the leash to you and leave.
18. After the meet/greet, we ask that you use the "add diary entry" function on your Covid QR scanner application and note down the Adopter's address.
19. To avoid or minimize contact, we recommend that the foster carer does not enter your home. We advise that you both sanitize your hands thoroughly, both prior and after.

MISCELLANEOUS:

20. If any foster carers contact us confirming they were infectious with COVID-19 at the time of any meet/greet, we will inform you immediately. We also recommend you use the "Bluetooth function" on the covid tracer application.
21. Please ensure that you thoroughly read the Trial Agreement and Adoption Manual supplied to you.

We hope you all understand why the above is important to consider at the moment. Again – if you have any questions, comments, or suggestions, please email us: contact@nzchihuahuarescue.co.nz