



## **Frequently Asked Questions**

We understand it's a big decision adopting or fostering a dog or cat. To support you with this process, we have created this FAQ guide, which we hope answers any questions or concerns you may have.

### **About Us**

We are a non-profit animal rescue who focus on rehabilitating and rehoming cats and dogs across Hampshire UK and in Romania. Our journey began in 2018 when our Founder and Manager, Kirsty Wrightson, established the rescue after losing her beloved dog, Millie. Since then, our team of volunteers and fosterers have worked tirelessly to find all our animals a family of their own. To date we have rescued and rehomed over 1000 dogs and cats, but there are many more that still need our help.

#### **What we do:**

Our work is never done. Unfortunately, there are always animals that need our help, both locally and abroad. We support the local community in and around Basingstoke and wider area by rehoming and rehabilitating dogs, cats, and other small animals. Our work includes arranging shelter, transport, veterinary care, microchipping, spaying, and neutering.

In addition to our work in the UK, we also help dogs and cats in Romania. The shelters in Romania are often filthy and riddled with disease. We support individual rescuers in Romania, working alone with little support or financial backing, who are making a real difference to the lives of the dogs they save. We help promote the animals they have available to rehome and support them with spay and neuter campaigns.

### **What is Best, Foster or Adoption?**

We have two options available:

1. Foster with a view to adopt. The animal will come directly from Romania to your home. You will have the opportunity to first see if the animal is right for you and vice versa before making a final decision.
2. Adoption. Our dogs or cats will already be in foster in the UK, and you will get the opportunity to meet with them before making your decision.

### **Advertising**

We try and ensure that our website and Facebook pages are kept as up to date as possible. At any given time, we also have dogs and cats who have not yet been listed, so feel free to make a general enquiry rather than specific to a particular animal.

With dogs/puppies coming over from Romania, sometimes the information we receive is limited. In each case we will do our best to provide you with as much information as possible, so that you can make an informed decision. As our dogs all go into foster homes it gives the rescue the opportunity to fully assess them first.

Our cats/kittens are usually UK rescues, and we normally have more information on them.

Website Address: <https://helpingdogsandcatsuk.org>

Facebook Address: <https://www.facebook.com/helpingdogsandcatsuk>

## **Our Process – How We Operate**

Our process is as follows:

1. If you see a dog or cat that you are interested in adopting, or are just interested in general, in the first instance please can you complete and return an application form. <https://helpingdogsandcatsuk.org/forms>

Please ensure that you meet our criteria if you are looking to adopt a **dog**, see below:

- We do not home to flats above ground level
- We do not home with children under 8
- You will require a minimum 5ft height secure fence/wall

Please ensure that you meet our criteria if you are looking to adopt a **cat**, see below:

- We do not home on main roads or close to railway lines
  - We do not home with children under 5
2. We will review all applications received and if successful, a member of our volunteer admin team will call you for an informal chat. We will talk through the answers on your application form and find out more about you, your lifestyle etc. This is also an opportunity for you to ask any questions you may have.
  3. If the rescue and yourselves feel that it is a good match, we will organise an in-person home check. There is a £10 charge for home checks, which will be deducted off the compulsory adoption fee at the end.
  4. For dogs – After the home check has been approved, we will arrange for a meet and greet (if the dog is already in foster). We ask for a minimum of three visits, including taking along any dogs already in the home, along with any other family members. The fourth visit will be to collect the dog or in some cases the dog will be delivered directly to you at home.
  5. After ongoing conversations and if everyone agrees, we will send you an adoption agreement to sign and return to us. We will also ask for the adoption fee to be paid.

## **Adoption Fees for Dogs**

£10 Home Check (deducted at the time of adoption if successful)

£500, Adoption of Dogs up to 6 years of age

£320, Adoption of Dogs over 7 years of age

£100, Adoption of Dogs over 10 years of age

£80, Adoption of Dogs with Special Needs

### **Foster with a View To Adopt**

Two payments £250 (transport fees) and £250 at the point of adoption

### **Adoption fee for Cats & Kittens**

£230, Adoption for a Kitten

Age dependant, the adoption fee varies £70 to £200

Our adoption fee includes:

- Pet Passport (if applicable)
- All vaccinations
- De worming and flea treatments
- Microchipping
- 5 weeks free insurance cover with Agria Pet Insurance
- A call with our team behaviourist

\*Where the dog or cat is old enough, it will also be spayed or neutered and we will confirm during the process, if this has been done or not.

### **Terms of Adoption**

Before completing an application form, please take a moment to read through our [Terms of Adoption and Code of Conduct](#).

### **Other Costs to Consider**

Having a dog or cat is expensive, especially if medical treatment is required. Here are few expenses that you need to consider:

Pet Insurance	This will vary depending on the age, size and breed of your dog. Some people prefer to put money aside each month to cover any unexpected medical costs.
Monthly treatments	De-flea and de-worming
Food	Wet, Dry or Raw
Dog Walker or Pet Sitter	If you are out at work or go away on holiday

### **Microchipping**

Each of our rescue dogs/cats are microchipped and we arrange for the microchip to be updated with your address and contact details on adoption.

### **Rescue Back Up**

The team works hard to ensure that our dogs go into the right homes and vice versa that you are happy with the adoption. We understand that sometimes things do not work out, people's circumstances change, or you may feel that you are not coping or having issues with the puppy or dog etc. and, in these rare instances, we provide full rescue back up.

**Help us make a difference - You can help us make a difference by volunteering with us, fostering an animal, or donating to the rescue.**

One of our biggest challenges aside from fundraising, is finding foster homes. As fast as we can rehome, there are more animals waiting to come in.

Fostering is hugely rewarding and gives an animal the opportunity of finding their forever home in a safe, loving, and secure environment. When you foster a dog or cat with us you play a key part in the rehoming process and help us to help more animals. If you'd like to know more about fostering, you can read more on our fostering page.

Our small team is staffed by volunteers, who are true animal lovers and passionate about animal welfare. We receive no government funding and depend entirely on the generosity of our supporters. Every penny we receive goes directly to helping dogs and cats. If you would like to make a donation or are interested in volunteering, we would love to hear from you.

<https://helpingdogsandcatsuk.org/donate>