**VOLUNTEER ROLE DESCRIPTION: FOSTER CARER**

We require volunteer foster carers to provide a safe, calm and loving temporary home for a variety of animals. The length of fostering varies depending on the individual animals’ needs but is usually for around 3 months or until the animal finds a new home. During this time, we ask foster carers to provide all the care and attention that an owner would.

To aim of the role is to provide a caring home environment, including continuing important training and monitoring/treatment of the animal’s health.

**Reporting to:** Rehoming Team

**Location:** In your own home. This should be within 45 minutes of Raystede.

**Days or Hours Required:** 24 hours once the foster animal is in situ.

**Description of duties:**

Caring for the animals in your own home for a variety of reasons which could include:

* Not coping during their stay at Raystede
* One to one care, training and support
* Convalescing
* Pregnant queens and kittens
* Temporary fostering of owned animals

**Skills, experience & requirements you will need:**

* We find fostering works best in experienced, adult-only and pet-free homes but happily consider all applications
* Patient and compassionate, with an empathy for the animal’s situation
* Good knowledge and experience of caring for the animal you apply to foster. Training will be provided for applying treatments such as flea/wormer control
* To keep accurate records on the health and behaviour of your foster pet and report regularly to the Rehoming Team
* Facilities (where appropriate) that meet current animal welfare standards. For kittens, be able to provide a suitable quiet space (ideally a spare room).
* At home for a large part of the day
* Ability to commit to several months of care. Arrangements can be made for holidays, within reason
* Be willing and able to transport pets to out-of-hours vets in an emergency (details will be provided)
* Willing to develop animal welfare awareness and attend training if available and convenient
* Have permission to have pets in your property (if rented)
* Aged 18 years or over

**How you will make a difference:**

By providing a temporary home for animals in Raystede’s care allows them to relax away from Raystede whilst receiving greater companionship, exercise and training. This can be highly rewarding.

For animals looking for a permanent home, this makes it easier for them to find them a forever home. For pregnant queens and kittens, these cats will benefit from experiencing the sights, sounds and smells of a home environment until they are ready to be rehomed.

**What we offer you:**

* All food and equipment needed
* Veterinary care is provided through Raystede
* Support and on-going training in your chosen role

**How to apply:**

If you would like to complete an application form please email rehoming@raystede.org.

If your application looks suitable for fostering animals, we will contact your nominated referees and arrange a home visit with yourself.