

FOSTERING 101

K9 Edition

HARMONY & HOPE
Animal Trust



YOUR FOSTER PUP

How do you match us?

We will use all the information given in your application to match a foster pup to your current situation, if anything changes or you have a specific age in mind, please let us know.

How long do I foster for?

Your pup/dog will be ready for adoption when they are healthy, settled, desexed (if over 6 months), have had their first vaccinations and are microchipped.

We prefer not to have to move our fosters during their stay if possible, so if you will only be available short term or will be going away in the near future please let us know. Pups/Dogs can be in care from a few days to a few months. **Arrange with the HHAR team if you have a specific timeframe in mind.**

Introductions

- 🐾 Slow and supervised
- 🐾 Start in a calm part of the house
- 🐾 Wait a minimum of 1 week
- 🐾 Work with the temperament of your pup

We always advise slow and supervised introductions to other animals in the house. We recommend waiting a minimum of 1 week before introductions if health history is not known.

Best practice is always allowing the new foster to decompress and become comfortable in their new surroundings in a calm quiet part of the house before starting any initial introductions. You know your pets best however we don't always know the background of the rescued pup/dog.

If you need any advice around introductions please message us and we will always do our best to guide you through.

YOUR PUPS ADOPTION PROFILE

When your pup or dog is ready for adoption (i.e they are healthy, desexed (if applicable), vaccinated and are behaviourally sociable) we will ask you for some information to help with finding their forever home. The more detail you can give us the better!

A good guideline is:

- 🐾 Basic summary on what you love about them
- 🐾 Estimated size when fully grown/breed (if known)
- 🐾 Name/any nicknames
- 🐾 Quirks

Experience with:

- 🐾 **Kids**
i.e what ages would they suit. Are they nippy/jumpy and would be better for children over 5?
- 🐾 **Cats**
Have they been fostered with cats and how did they interact? If not how do you think they would do with a cat?
- 🐾 **Dogs**
Have they been fostered with dogs and how old. How were their interactions? What sort of dogs do they get along with best.
- 🐾 **Livestock and/or small animals**
Have they been fostered/trained with any?

Training:

- 🐾 **Training they are undergoing** such as the basics (sit, wait, bed, crate) and beyond.
- 🐾 **Training they will need** in a new home and what dog experience level they'd be suited to.

You can send all of this information via our Facebook page, or email. **NOTE** – If you are a less experienced foster we can send one of our team members over to do this assessment in person before the dog goes up for adoption. Please let us know if you'd be more comfortable with us doing this.

If you have any issues please let us know straight away. We also suggest doing Social media posts about your fosters, we can then share these for a greater reach. You are also welcome to hang physical poster advertisements etc.

SUPPLIES

FOOD & WATER

Please provide fresh clean drinking water 24/7.

HHAR will provide any food you require for your foster, you will have food given to you with your pup/dog or shortly after their arrival.

If needed (i.e you live out of town) and we have pre-approved it, you can purchase food and be reimbursed.

If you would like to provide your own food to your foster at your cost this is appreciated, but please check with us first so we can make sure it's a suitable diet. Treats, and extras are fine but please double check with us first. It's up to you to let us know when you will require more food by messaging the foster communications page.

Puppies

Under 8 weeks
Require 3-4 meals a day.

If you have young puppies you will be given further guidance on feeding.

8 weeks - 6 months
Require 3 meals a day

Dogs

6 months and over
Require 2 meals a day

Malnourished pups/dogs

If your foster is malnourished, i.e they have ribs showing, or haven't eaten in a while, they will need a slow introduction to food. This also applies to recovering from an illness.

1-5 DAYS Feed small but frequent meals, every 3 hours throughout the day and night, and only a fraction of the portion size.

6-10 DAYS If responding well, increase portion sizes and decrease to 4 meals a day

10+ DAYS If responding well, drop down to normal portion sizes and frequencies.

Diarrhea & Vomitting

A pup that is displaying vomiting or diarrhea can be fed plain cooked chicken, and boiled pumpkin or carrot. (Please note you will need to discuss this with us first). See health section.

CRATES/BEDDING

If you need, HHAR can provide crates, bedding, toys, towels, and even puppy pads.

Please let us know if you will require any of this when agreeing to foster a pup.

We rely heavily on donations, so we would really appreciate it if you are able/willing to provide your own equipment.

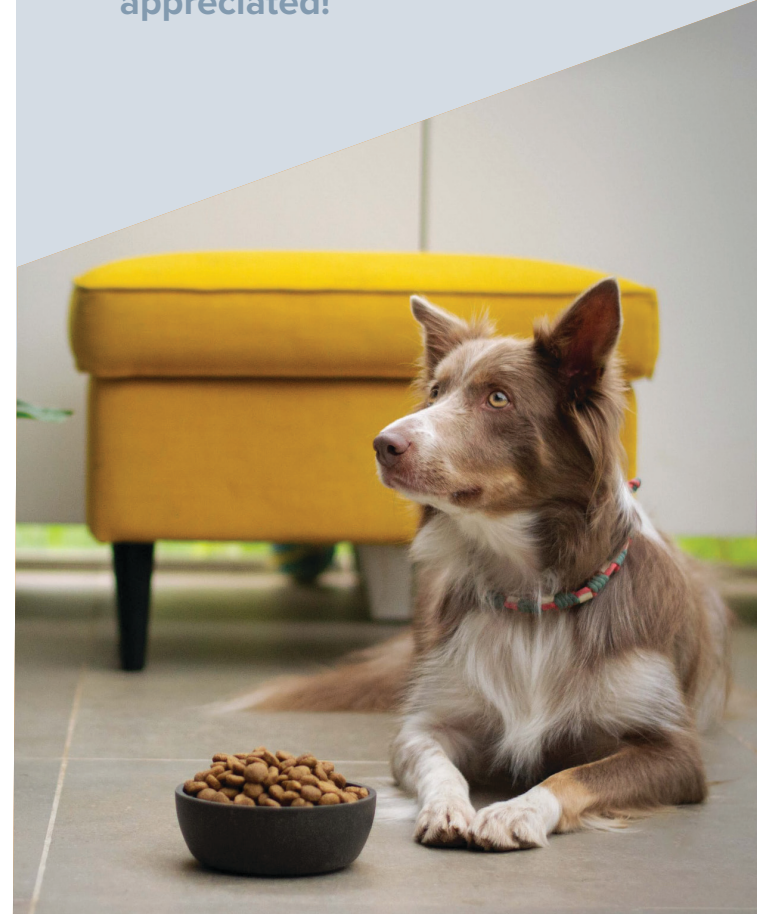


GENERAL

 If in doubt - ask

 Feed smaller portions more often to malnourished/sick animals

 We will supply everything you need but donations are very appreciated!





HEALTH

Diarrhea

Please notify us immediately if your pup develops diarrhea. PLEASE NOTE: You will often find a new foster will have diarrhea when it first arrives due to the stress, and also transitioning onto a new food. This is very common and not usually cause to worry. It can also be caused by a worming treatment. It's vital to make sure your pup is staying hydrated-see dehydration section below. Cause for concern is the presence of significant blood or puss in the stool. You can use pumpkin or carrot boiled and added into the food to firm up stool. Consult with us before doing this so we can make sure it's not serious.

Vomiting

Please notify us immediately if your pup starts to vomit. Vomiting can be a normal sign when related to stress or overeating, however it needs to be monitored especially if accompanied by diarrhea or lethargy.

Dehydration

If your pup is acting lethargic it's a good idea to check how hydrated they are. You can do this by pinching the skin folds between the shoulder blades, if the skin springs back quickly they are well hydrated, if it takes a while or doesn't spring back, then they are dehydrated. Notify us immediately, and offer water. It's vital to keep your pup hydrated, home remedies include: syringing water in to the mouth every hour-few hours, watered down blue powerade, or a home electrolyte solution of water, salt & honey. We have vytrate solution and fluids on hand, or we will organise a vet visit.

Joint pain

Just like children, puppies can experience growing pains. Cause for concern is if the pain seems prolonged and acute (i.e the puppy is screaming in pain or nursing a leg for longer than a day). We will likely need to have a vet check to make sure no bones have been broken.

Skin conditions

Please take photos of and send through to us any areas on the skin that look abnormal. This can be:

- 🐾 Hair loss
- 🐾 Scaly or patchy skin
- 🐾 Red inflamed areas,
- 🐾 Constant scratching
- 🐾 or a bad smell

We will investigate and come up with a plan of action to treat the condition. Make sure to wash your hands after interacting with your foster.

VACCINATIONS

Pups/Dogs will all need to be vaccinated routinely as per their age requirements. We vaccinate our canines for the core Parvovirus/Distemper and also Leptospirosis. They may also need booster shots dependent on if they are still in your care a month after their initial ones. Kennel Cough is at the discretion of the new owner.

This is organised by our appointment coordinator, and they will be in touch with you when it is time to book, please don't make these appointments yourselves unless pre-approved. We will book and pay for these at the closest of our regular vets to your location. If you live out of town and need to use a vet not regularly used by HHAR, we will ask you to pay for the appointment, and we will reimburse you once you send the receipt through.

PLEASE NOTE: If your dog/pup is not already microchipped they will need to be chipped during their vaccination appointment. Puppies/Dogs that have had less than 2 rounds of their vaccinations CAN NOT leave your property except to go in the car, to vet appointments or somewhere arranged by our team.

They also can't interact with any animals coming in off your property, and any humans interacting with them will need to have clean washed hands first. It's also worth noting that diseases can be carried in on shoes from the outside world, so it's worth taking footwear off while inside the house if you have fosters. You will need to notify us if you have had any cases of illness on your property within the last 2 years. This includes but is not limited to:

- 🐾 Parvovirus
- 🐾 Leptospirosis
- 🐾 Coccidia/Giardia
- 🐾 Gastroenteritis

DESEXING

We can not desex male puppies until 4 months of age, and female puppies until 6 months of age. Therefore if you have a foster puppy you will not need to worry about that, we have a desexing contract with the new owners, and they will get that done once they leave your home.

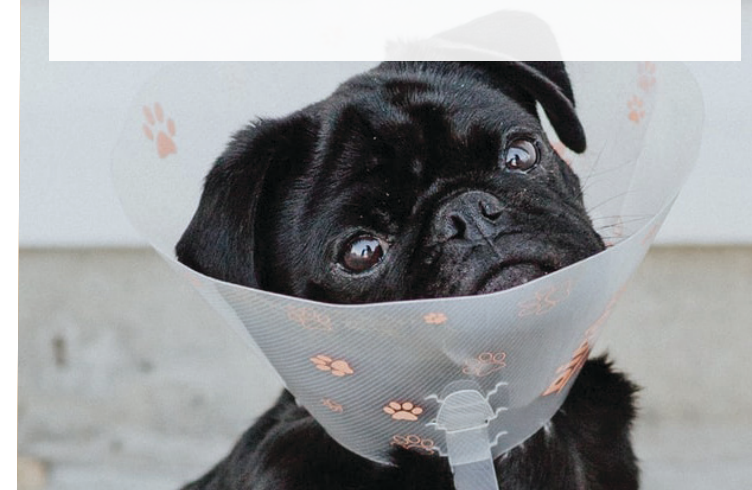
If you are fostering a dog that we have booked for a desexing appointment:

- 🐾 Please ensure your dog is healthy the day before the surgery
- 🐾 Do not provide any food from 8pm the night before the surgery, no breakfast. Water is allowed and should be available.
- 🐾 Your dog will need to be at the vet clinic by 8.30am. We will tell you where and when to be there, and when to pick up.

POST-OPERATIVE CARE:

The vet may give you a handout, and they should discuss expectations with you. If not please contact us with any queries or concerns you may have.

- 🐾 Males bounce back quickly but will still need to rest for 1-2 days post op.
- 🐾 Females need a minimum 2 days of strict rest with no jumping or running.
- 🐾 Keep a close eye on the wound site for any puss, swelling or visible redness.
- 🐾 If external stitches have been used you will need to arrange to get them out in 10 days time.



Vet Appt.

We do ask that you transport your foster to and from vet appointments as necessary. We will always consult with you first before making an appointment to ensure it works around your schedule. Our vet coordinator will make appointments for you at one of our approved vet clinics, on our account.

PLEASE remember to bring your vet books with your pups to desexing/ vaccination appointments!



AFFILIATED VETS

WHAKATANE

Veterinary Health Centre
23 Landing Road,
Whakatane.
073087479

Bay Vets Whakatane
100 Commerce Street,
Whakatane.
073070759

EDGE CUMBE

Bay Vets Edgecumbe
40 Bridge Street,
Edgecumbe.
073049184

OPOTIKI

Opotiki Veterinary Centre
91 Waioeka Road, Opotiki.
073158474

KAWERAU

Bay Vets Kawerau
37 Liverpool Street,
Kawerau.
073231052

ROTORUA

Central City Vets Rotorua
1380 Pukuatua Street,
Rotorua
(07 0347 7448

BARROWMAN GOODMAN VETS

110 Lake Road, Koutu,
Rotorua. 073439090

PALMERSTON NORTH

Valley Vets
141 Cambridge Avenue,
Ashhurst, Palmerston North.
063269257

URGENT

If for any reason you urgently need to get a hold of someone from HHAR please call our phone: 0223803065

You are given permission to take your foster straight to the vet if they are displaying any life-threatening symptoms and you can't get hold of us in the first instance. For any non-urgent enquiries just send through a message to the foster communications page and one of our amazing team will get back to you, usually within a day.

FLEA/WORM TREATMENTS

All puppies are flead and wormed on arrival to HHAR then either fortnightly/monthly or 3 monthly depending on their age, our coordinators will remind you when it needs to be done.

You will either receive the treatments or you can go into one of our regular vets and put it on HHAR's account. See below for the preferred brand, if you choose to, you can pay for the flea/worm treatment but please stick to the guide.

NOTE: Please write a record of your pups flea/worm treatment in the vet book you will be provided with at their vaccine appointment.

LESS THAN 8 WEEKS

Flea treatment
Frontline spray
On intake then only
when necessary

Wormer / Wormaway
(1 tablet per 7kg)

These are broken up into
pieces for smaller pups.

OVER 8 WEEKS

Flea treatment
**Advantage topical
treatment monthly OR**
Nexguard oral tablet
Tablet Monthly

Wormer / Drontal
Fortnightly until 3
months
Monthly until 6
months
3 monthly after that

ADULT DOG 12 months +

Flea treatment
**Advantage topical
treatment**
Treatment Monthly
OR Nexguard oral tablet
Tablet Monthly

Wormer / Drontal
10kg or 20-35kg
Tablet 3 Monthly

Flea/worm COMBO
**Advocate topical
treatment**

We can use advocate topical
combined treatment if it's too
hard to get a foster to take
tablets.

TRAINING/BEHAVIOUR

We do ask that you provide some basic training for your new foster pup to give them the best start possible when going to their forever home. This may include, but is not limited to:

- 🐾 Toilet training
- 🐾 Household manners e.g. no jumping up, no begging
- 🐾 Basic commands such as sit, wait and stay
- 🐾 Crate training or bed training

There are plenty of online resources to help with this, or ask us if you are unsure of any training techniques.

PLEASE NOTE:

We DO NOT endorse training methods that include physical correction (e.g smacking), yelling, water bottles, rubbing face in toilet accidents etc.

We DO endorse balanced leadership styles of dog training and use of positive reinforcement.

Please let us know immediately if you notice any aggressive/concerning behaviour as this may require specialist training (we will pay for) and a delay to the pup/dog being available for adoption.

If at any time you feel you can no longer manage a pup/dog please let us know and we will either work with you on these behaviours or move your pup to another foster.

Recommended Trainers/Resources

There's a basic puppy training 101 guide on the animates website here: <https://www.animates.co.nz/articles/puppy-training-basics>

We recommend you familiarise yourself with some good dog trainers on Facebook/Instagram and even YouTube- there are an endless sea of resources out there!

- Some good trainers we'd recommend on Instagram and YouTube are:
- 🐾 SolidK9 training
 - 🐾 Pack leader dogs
 - 🐾 South End Dog Training

THE ADOPTION PROCESS

Your pup/dog will be ready for adoption when they are healthy, settled, desexed (if over 6 months) have had their first vaccinations and are microchipped.

Adoption fees are \$400 for adult dogs over 1 year and \$450 for puppies.

We offer a special foster adoption fee of \$380.

When we get adoption applications we pre-screen them for suitability, and either do an in person property check or get them to send photos/videos through. This means that when we pass your number onto them they have passed the preliminary steps and are able to adopt a dog from us.

THIS IS WHERE YOU COME IN!

We will use the information you have provided about your pup as well as the information the potential adopter has given to ensure it would be a good fit, once this has happened we will pass your number on to the adopter (we will send you a message to let you know). Please have a good chat with these applicants. We want you to grill them! We need to make sure their home is going to be right for your foster pup, and after all who knows them better than you do?

Some things to consider are:

- 🐾 Compatibility with kids
 - 🐾 Cats
 - 🐾 Other dogs
 - 🐾 Behaviour issues,
 - 🐾 Energy levels
- It's also worth discussing how often the dog will be left at home, and if they have plans in place for this.**

After you have spoken with them, please get in touch with us and provide us with some feedback about what you think.

ADOPTION TIMELINE

IT'S A MATCH!

If you think it's a good match and the potential adopter agrees and wants to proceed, HHAR will send them the next steps and a meet and greet will be organised (note we do allow adoptions without a meet and greet first for puppies under 4 months- but we expect you to video call with the adopter). If at the meet and greet they decide they want to take the puppy, (AND you are happy and satisfied that they are the right family for your precious pup!) we will send them through electronically all the steps they must complete before taking their family member home.

Sign the adoption contract

They must digitally sign the adoption contract and show you proof.

Sign the desexing contract

They must digitally sign the desexing contract (if adopting an undesexed younger puppy) and show you proof.

Pay the adoption fee

They must pay the adoption fee and show you proof. Then that's that! They can take their new pup home. We encourage you to keep in touch with your fosters new family so you can see them grow and thrive. Let them know we will send a follow up email with all the relevant information and an adoption certificate.

Send them off with what they need

Please make sure you give the new adopter the animals vet book. You are welcome to send the dog/pups collar, lead, and any toys or bedding you think will help to comfort them.

6 Reasons to Spread the Word!

01. FOSTERING SAVES LIVES

Many times rescues who have no central facility, rely solely on foster homes to determine how many Animals they can save whether it be from owner surrender, found animals or from Pounds. Rescues also rely on fosters to provide a change of environment for long term residents or those Animals who may be having a hard time adjusting to a kennel atmosphere. Fosters are crucial to shelters and rescues ability to help expectant female Animals, by affording them a quiet and comfortable atmosphere to deliver puppies and care for them in those first weeks of crucial development.

02. YOU HELP MAKE THE ANIMAL MORE "ADOPTABLE"

Often times, certain Animals may not "present" well in a kennel environment due to excess energy, or excitement for some attention. While fostering an Animal, you are able to provide exercise and stimulation, which in turn creates a calmer Animal which in many cases may be closer to what their behaviour will look like in a home environment. In addition, you can work with the Animal on leash training, house training, or other basic command training, that potential adopters will find attractive when looking for the perfect Animal for their family.

03. YOU CAN CHANGE A ANIMAL'S FUTURE

Shelters and rescues often look to fosters for those Animals who may have endured a difficult past such as abuse, cruelty, neglect, under socialization, etc. As a foster, you have the chance and opportunity to gain an animals trust, show them human touch and love perhaps for the first time, provide an environment for them to feel safe, and watch them transform before your eyes.

04. FOSTERING CAN BE GREAT FOR YOUR FAMILY

If you have existing pets, introducing a Animal can be a great experience for them as an additional companion, additional socialization, and an additional playmate! Children can benefit from fostering as a way to introduce responsibility, selflessness, a way to educate about animals, and is also a great way to "test" the idea of a permanent Animal into the home in the future.

05. BECOME PART OF A WONDERFUL "COMMUNITY"

Fellow fosters from the same shelter or rescue will help guide you through the experience, give ideas, answer any questions, and may even become your friends! We even have a Facebook Community. There is nothing quite like sharing experiences with those who do the same and being part of a community of people who have like passions.

06. YOU WILL MAKE SOMEONE'S FAMILY COMPLETE

When the day comes, that your foster finds that perfect home, the rewarding feeling you will experience is something very special. You will feel a sense of pride, in knowing what you helped that Animal accomplish in his time with you. You will feel overjoyed, that he has found his forever family and his happy ending that all homeless Animals so desire. And while certainly, some goodbyes can be tough, knowing that an Animal has found his happy ending and that another precious life awaits to be afforded your gifts, is as good of a feeling as there is!

Contact

When you become a foster we ask you to join our foster community here where you can share questions and experiences with other foster families:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/678103232986966>

We also ask you to send a message (just a 'hello' will do!) to our Foster communications group here as this is where our coordinators will chat to you:

<https://www.facebook.com/hhanimalrescuefosters>



022.380.3065

Calls outside of 9am-3pm will not be taken - please leave a voice message.



info@hhar.org.nz



www.facebook.com/hhanimalrescuenz

WWW. hhar.org.nz

