



## **Dog Fostering Application**

### **Before Applying to Foster - General Information**

- You will need to be active and willing to exercise your dog daily. All expenses are paid and equipment provided for your foster dog by Dogs2FosterUK.
- You will need to provide suitable accommodation and space for your dog to be part of the family but, in addition, an area of its own to have quiet time.
- You will need a secure garden big enough for the dog to play freely, run around and go to the toilet.
- You will need to live in permanent accommodation either as a home owner or with a long-term tenancy agreement with your landlord's permission to keep a dog.
- If you are of retirement age, our wonderful dogs age five years or above would be perfect for you as they do not require the level of exercise our younger dogs need.
- You will need to provide company and companionship for your dog so that they are not alone for long periods of time. Dogs are very sociable creatures and are happiest when their 'special person' is around for them.
- You will need to be patient, calm and caring
- Dogs needing our care may have come from a wide range of situations so you need to have a good foundation of knowledge and experience with dogs, we do not need people to be "experts" but you do need to be knowledgeable.
- Our dogs may be grieving, frightened, have suffered abuse or bad handling by their previous owner. You will need to be patient, be able to put house rules in place and a good routine in a calm home environment. Dogs respond badly to stressful situations, if there is unrest or even arguments this will stress them and they may react in a fearfully aggressive way.
- If you live with other people in your household, everyone needs to be 100% committed, not just one person.
- If you experience mood swings, depression or anxiety a dog will pick up on this and may react negatively. Dogs need confidence from us to be confident in themselves.
- You need to be adaptable, if a dog is grieving, they may need to sleep in their bed in your room for a few days or longer. Most foster dogs are timid and wary when they first arrive, some will just want space until they have sussed you out, others will not want to leave your side.
- Fostering is HARD work and requires a massive commitment from you to persevere with any problems that arise. Expect the first few weeks to be an emotional rollercoaster whilst you and your foster dog get to know each other.
- You need to be organised and set up a good routine from the offset so your foster dog knows when he will be fed, walked, told its time for his bed etc. This builds confidence and trust.
- Foster dogs are NOT allowed off lead, this is for their safety as many would bolt. Instead they are exercised on a long lead once basic control is established.
- Foster dogs must be fed dog food only, in addition they may have chicken and rice or scrambled eggs but no other human food.

- You may be asked to home check potential adopters, you will be asked to provide photos, updates and videos for potential adopters and potential adopters may need to visit the foster dog at your home. You will also be expected to help with “introductions” between the new home.
- Your foster dog may need lots of training, you will be expected to help them with this to a basic level of teaching them “sit, down, wait, paw” and recall on their long lead.
- Grooming and daily care will vary depending on breed and hair type, but it is very important our foster dogs are well cared for and groomed to keep them healthy.
- No severe or adverse punishment is allowed to be used on any of our foster dogs, for example hitting, smacking, shock collars, yanking on the lead, removal of food, water, prolonged company etc to punish any of our dogs. Any suspected abuse of a foster dog would be immediately reported to the Police and RSPCA. Clear behaviour strategies are always agreed in advance and then “as and when” if any problems arise.
- The biggest thing we ask is commitment from you to see the job through to the end (up to 3 months) and to NOT throw the towel in when things get a little tricky which happens.
- Moving dogs from one home to another has a lasting and VERY damaging effect on rescue dog, it causes more anxiety and stress for a dog than most people can comprehend. It can have lasting behavioural effects that make it hard or even impossible for the dog to find a great home. If you are not able to offer 100% commitment for 3 months, please do not waste your time and ours pretending you can. To give an example, we have on average around 50 plus enquiries per week, we are extremely lucky if one of those enquiries actually materialises into a foster home. It costs a fortune in our time and resources with money we simple can't afford and don't have. Please be honest with your self – is this for you?
- You have to put the dogs needs before your own, it is as simple as that! If you can do this, you will make a good or even great foster carer and although its sad when they move to a permanent home, you can thing you have probably just saved a lovely dogs life.
- We allow foster carers to stay in touch if the new owners agree. But we send you news of how your foster dog is doing regardless from our follow-up visits.
- Fostering is hard work, challenging but the most fantastic achievement when you reflect on where you and your foster dog started to what they have achieved. Dogs are incredible animals and deserve the upmost respect and admiration, they are capable of so much. They make us feel good, they keep us active, they shower us with affection and trust and are always happy to engage in a game, walk, cuddle once they know and trust us. Fostering a dog is similar to welcoming a new born baby, you teach and watch them take all the steps they need to have a happy, healthy life free from abuse. 😊

## **Terms and Conditions of Fostering a Dog- Dogs2FosterUK**

We take all reasonable steps to ensure all our dogs are rehomed safely from the information provided to us by the dog's current owner/or the rescue the dog has lived in.

The Animal Welfare Act 2006 stipulates that you as the dog's foster carer are classed exactly the same as the owner and you must take proper care and reasonable steps to ensure your foster dog's welfare needs are met which are:

- You must provide your foster dog with a suitable environment
- Provide a suitable diet for your foster dog
- Enable your dog to exhibit normal behaviour patterns
- Safeguard them from pain and suffering, disease and injury
- Provide them with suitable housing and shelter

When in public, your foster dog must always wear a collar with an identification tag attached, the ID tag must include Dogs2FosterUK's name, address and telephone number. Our ID tags are provided.

It is compulsory for your foster dog to be microchipped. Dogs2FosterUK undertake this responsibility.

Whether in a public place or on private property including your home, a dangerously out of control dog can be defined as a dog that has injured someone or there are reasonable grounds to believe it could injure someone. Under the Act, this also includes your foster dog attacking an assistance dog. If your foster dog injures someone you could be prosecuted. It is always your responsibility to keep your foster dog under control. (Dangerously Out of Control - Dangerous Dogs Act 1991). For this reason, all our foster dogs must be exercised in public on leads, this can be a long lunge lead provided you have the foster dog under control.

We accept no liability or responsibility for any damage or injury caused by your foster dog under your care.

Dogs are not allowed to worry livestock. It is an offence if your foster dog chases, attacks or causes suffering or worry to livestock, you will be held responsible as their foster carer.

Your foster dog must be suitably restrained when travelling in a vehicle so that they cannot distract you, injure you or injure themselves (The UK Highway Code)

It may be considered an offence if you leave your foster dog in a hot car. Even with water supply, windows down and sun shields, your dog will not be able to cool themselves down adequately and they may die (Animal Welfare Act 2006).

You agree that you have thoroughly satisfied yourself by all the information we have provided about your foster dog.

You agree to ensure your foster dog's annual vaccinations and health check are kept up to date and provide worming and flea treatment care regularly and as and when required.

We accept no liability or responsibility for the foster dog's behaviour, true parentage/breed, or age. The information we receive about our dogs is assumed accurate and received in good faith from the current owner, rescue sheltering the dog. Dogs which have been abandoned have little or no history unfortunately, so we do our very best to verify as much information as possible through assessment and background checks that we may or may not be able to undertake prior to fostering.

feeding and sheltering your dog temporarily until another home can be found which your adoption donation only part way covers.

If in the future you must rehome your dog, you agree as part of our terms and conditions to contact us immediately so that we can facilitate the safe rehoming of your dog. If for whatever reason this necessitates your dog to be boarded elsewhere other than your home, you are

Under no circumstances may your foster dog be sold, rehomed or abandoned to a pound/rescue without our knowledge and intervention.

Under no circumstances should your foster dog be destroyed unless it is the opinion of a qualified veterinary surgeon and with our consent.

You are strictly prohibited from using your foster dog for breeding purposes, illegal 'sporting' activities including poaching, working activities (unless agreed with Dogs2Foster UK in the best interests of your dog prior to fostering where the dog is an active 'working dog' already, for example living and working in a farm environment due to their breed). You are also prohibited from using your foster dog for security purposes as a guard dog or for any reason which you would profiteer from them directly or indirectly.

If your foster dog is not neutered for any reason, you agree to have this procedure undertaken by a veterinary surgeon at the earliest opportunity.

You agree to housing your dog inside your home, kennels or other housing outside your home are strictly prohibited for our dogs due to the negative and stressful experiences they may have previously endured.

It is strictly prohibited that adopters use metal choke/check chains or electric collars or similar which would cause unnecessary pain and suffering to your foster dog.

It is strictly forbidden that foster carers use physical punishment such as smacking, tying the dog up, jerking on the lead type methods with their dog which cause your foster dog pain, suffering, and distress. Instead, you agree to use positive reinforcement methods which include encouragement and reward when your dog behaves well. If your dog presents a specific behaviour that needs correcting, you

agree to take your dog to training classes or seek the help of a professional canine expert. You must also contact us as we can provide professional help and advice and have a dog behaviourist on hand.

You agree that you have appropriate permission from your landlord/housing officer/estate management company as part of your tenancy to keep a foster dog if you are not a home owner.

You agree that to the best of your knowledge that you know of no circumstances whereby you may be evicted from your home, rehomed for the any three-month period you agree to take a foster dog into your home.

By reading our General Information and Terms and Conditions you fully understand and accept your responsibilities as your dog's foster carer under UK law.

Please complete the essential information required to enable us to match you with dogs that best suit your circumstances. Once this information is complete, please email this to us at [dogs2fosteruk@gmail.com](mailto:dogs2fosteruk@gmail.com). Once received, we hope to be in touch within 48 hours. We thank you for supporting the many dogs in need at Dogs2FosterUK.



**Our Contact Details:**

Email: [dogs2fosteruk@gmail.com](mailto:dogs2fosteruk@gmail.com)

Web: [www.dogs2fosteruk.org](http://www.dogs2fosteruk.org)

Tel: 023 817 817 07

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**Declaration of Truth:**

**I confirm that the information I have provided is factually correct.**

I hereby state that I have NEVER been involved or associated with any formal enquiry/ investigation or criminal charges in relation to animal welfare or abuse. I have read the terms and conditions of the foster's contract and agree to fulfil these conditions in the best interests of the dog(s) you place in my care. I also agree to Dogs2Foster UK completing necessary reference checks in their efforts to ensure the safety of the foster dogs at all times.

Signed.....Date.....

PRINT NAME.....

# **Fostering Application Form**

## **About You**

**Date:**

**Are you applying to adopt or foster?**

**Name:**

**Full Address:**

**Telephone Home:**

**Telephone Mobile:**

**Telephone Work:**

**Email Address:**

**Age:**

**Please tell us about your living circumstances, are you a home owner, living in rented accommodation, council tenant etc?**

**If you rent your property, do you have consent from your landlord to house your dog?**

**Please describe your garden and is your garden secure with robust fencing?**

**Please provide details of people and pets who live with you including ages. Please include any information about regular visitors to your home?**

**Are You:      Employed      Self-Employed      Retired      in Receipt of Benefit?**

**Please provide information about your working life and what hours you work etc?**

**What previous experience of dog ownership do you have?**

**If you have previously owned pets, which veterinary practise did you use?**

**Do you have any holidays, hospital stays, building works to your home etc planned during the next few months?**

## **About Your Foster Dog**

Are you interested in a specific dog on our website?

Please provide an age range of the dogs you would consider or just enter All if you are not concerned about specific age groups.

Are you looking for a specific type of dog/breed?

Preferred size of dog:                      Small    Medium    Large    Very Large

Preferred hair type?

Preferred level of exercise requirements:    Very Active            Active            Gentle exerciser

Would you consider rehoming a pair of dogs i.e. brother and sister?    Yes    No    Maybe

Would you consider a dog with specific health needs i.e. blindness?    Yes    No    Maybe

Please provide any further information that will help us match you and your dog.

## **Further Information You Would Like to Add?**

## **What is your motivation for fostering a dog in Need?**

## **Have you read our terms and conditions thoroughly?**

