

# SDCH FOSTER CONTACTS

<p><b><u>DOG FOSTER OFFICER</u></b> Your first contact for dogs - Any foster concerns at all call or SMS</p>	<p><i>Most days , 8:00am - 4:00pm</i> <i>If no answer, contact Animal Care Team</i> <b>0418 589 886</b></p>
<p><b><u>CAT FOSTER OFFICER</u></b> Your first contact for cats and rabbits- Any foster concerns at all call or SMS</p>	<p><i>Most days , 8:00am - 4:00pm</i> <i>If no answer, contact Animal Care Team</i> <b>0451 648 551</b></p>
<p><b><u>ANIMAL CARE TEAM</u></b> If your Foster Officer is not available.  Or for information about a foster adoption.</p>	<p><i>Mon-Sat , 9:00am - 3:30pm</i> <i>&amp; Sun , 9:00am - 3:00pm</i>  <b>(02) 9587 9611 / 0450 636 481</b>  info@sdch.org.au</p>
<p><b><u>VET TEAM</u></b> For any medical queries, to order more medications, or for vet appointments.</p>	<p><i>Mon-Fri , 9:00am - 4:30pm</i>  <b>0427 909 269</b>  vet@sdch.org.au</p>
<p><b><u>PHOTOS &amp; VIDEOS</u></b> Email us photos, videos and animal descriptions.</p>	<p>pics@sdch.org.au</p>

## IN CASE OF AN EMERGENCY

- CALL us immediately if you have an emergency.
- If it is an emergency **after hours** (outside Mon-Sun, 9am-3pm) call any after-hours local vet for advice (you can find a list of some clinics at the end of this document). If required, take the animal to your local after-hours vet and show this letter (also on last page).

### **FOSTER RULES - Keeping your foster animal safe** *(Chat with your Foster Officer for more info)*

- Do **not** alter or stop any medications unless approved by a SDCH vet.
- Do **not** give your animal to another person unless approved by SDCH staff.

#### Dogs

- No Dog Parks
- No off-leash time when out of the home
- No walks for the first 3 days



#### Cats

- Not allow outside
- Do not feed cow's milk



#### Rabbits

- Provide food at all times
- No free roaming outside



# SYDNEY DOGS & CATS HOME

*Welcome to Foster Caring with Sydney Dogs & Cats Home !!!  
Thank you so much for sharing your home & saving a beautiful animal.*

## WE'RE HERE TO SUPPORT YOU

As a foster carer, you are joining an animal-loving family where support and guidance are abundant.

Foster resources include:

- This Foster Carer Guide
- The Foster Carer [Tips & Tricks](#) section on our website
- The friendly staff at SDCH and your Foster Officer (contact details above)
- Our awesome Foster Facebook Group – “[SDCH - Foster Carers](#)”
- Some foster carers will also get assigned a Foster Mentor who can provide extra support.

## BRINGING A FOSTER ANIMAL HOME

For many animals, changing environments can be scary and overwhelming. So, remember **Less is More** when it comes to foster caring.

Set your home up so it is quiet and calm, with not too much activity.

Avoid having visitors and going on trips for the first week.

## PROMOTE YOUR FOSTER ANIMAL

Please help find your foster animal their forever home!

Advertise them wherever you can and tell all your family and friends 😊

*\*Please also email photos, videos and written descriptions of your foster animal to [pics@sdch.org.au](mailto:pics@sdch.org.au)*

## THE ADOPTION PROCESS

Once an animal has had their vet work completed, the SDCH team will work on making the animal available for adoption.

When we receive an adoption enquiry, the Animal Care Team will check the applicant based on your feedback. We may also ask you to contact the adopter, to relay more in-depth information about your foster animal.

*For more foster info, visit [Foster FAQ's](#) or foster [Tips & Tricks](#) sections on our website.*

# SYDNEY DOGS & CATS HOME

If all goes well, we will then organise an adoption meet & greet at our shelter.

If a foster carer decides they want to adopt, simply let your Foster Officer know **ASAP**. We will then put a note on the animal's file so that the Animal Care Team can get in contact to process your adoption.

## RETURNING AN ANIMAL

You must call SDCH before returning an animal. We will need to reserve a kennel or cage for the animal and make sure we have staff available.

## AFTER HOURS STICKY SITUATIONS (BEFORE 8:00AM OR AFTER 4:00PM)

In the unlikely situation that it is after hours and you get 'stuck', remember to keep calm and take a minute to process the situation.

### "My foster animal got out or is lost"

- Search your entire house including cupboards and small places (cats in particular, can squeeze into very small spaces).
- Call your local vets.
- Knock on your neighbours' doors.
- Go for a search.
- SMS your Foster Care Officer so they find your message first thing in the morning.
- At 9:00am you can also call Sydney Dogs & Cats Home.

### "I am not comfortable around my foster animal"

Set up a secure, separate room (eg. spare room, toilet, bathroom, laundry etc) with water and bedding. Keep the animal in that room until the morning, when you can call the Foster Care Officer or SDCH at 8am.

If the animal starts becoming destructive, you can try adding treats or chews and calming music. It may take some time for the animal to relax.

# SYDNEY DOGS & CATS HOME

## EMERGENCIES

### **During Work Hours: Monday - Sunday, 9am-3pm**

If there is an emergency please call your Foster Officer immediately.

If your Foster Officer can not be contacted, please call our main line (02) 9587 9611.

### **After Hours: Outside Mon-Sun, 9am-3pm**

Call any after-hours local vet for advice (a list of some clinics are below).

If required, you may take the foster animal to your local after-hours vet and show the vet letter we have provided (it is also on the last page).

### **SOME AFTER-HOURS VETERINARY CLINICS**

Sydney Veterinary and Emergency Specialists, Rosebery: 9197 5800

Sydney University Emergency Clinic, Camperdown: 9351 3437

Animal Referral Hospital, Homebush: 9758 8666

North Shore Veterinary Hospital, Artarmon: 9436 1213

Northside Emergency Veterinary Service, Terrey Hills: 9452 2933

Small Animal Veterinary Hospital, North Ryde: 9889 0289

Ingleburn Veterinary Emergency Centre, Ingleburn: 9829 1947

Veterinary Specialists of Sydney (VSOS), Miranda: 8376 8767

*For more foster info, visit [Foster FAQ's](#) or foster [Tips & Tricks](#) sections on our website.*

# SYDNEY DOGS & CATS HOME

 442-446 LIVERPOOL ROAD, SOUTH STRATHFIELD NSW 2136  
 02 9587 9611

 SYDNEYDOGSANDCATSHOME.ORG  
 INFO@SYDNEYDOGSANDCATSHOME.ORG

 ABN: 16 943 464 587  
 CFN: 16738

## **Sydney Dogs and Cats Home - After Hours Veterinary Emergency Procedure (Please print this letter out to take to your After-Hours vet in an event of an emergency)**

Dear Treating Veterinarian,

The animal presented to you is an animal from Sydney Dogs and Cats Home (SDCH), a charity shelter. The person caring for this animal is an SDCH volunteer foster carer who is caring for the animal in their home temporarily.

SDCH has our own veterinary staff and hospital facilities but does not have the capacity to provide after-hours care for our animals. Our foster carers are advised that if their foster animal requires emergency care that they should seek assistance from their nearest after-hours veterinary clinic. In the case of a minor issue that does not require emergency treatment, we ask that foster carers contact SDCH the following morning for treatment and advice.

As you can appreciate, SDCH functions with limited financial resources. In the case of an after-hours emergency we ask that you provide stabilisation and supportive care, with a view to handing over the case to the SDCH veterinarians the following morning.

We appreciate that in some cases euthanasia is the most humane outcome for an animal and we trust your judgement as to whether this is required immediately.

Please be advised that only SDCH management can authorise extensive or nonessential veterinary care as SDCH will be covering all costs incurred. Foster carers are not permitted to authorise nonessential care and SDCH will not cover nonessential costs authorised by foster carers. Any standard costs will be covered by SDCH.

Thank you for caring for our animal/s, we look forward to working with you in future

Kind regards,

Dr Laura Taylor



**Head of Animal Care**

## **WOOF. MEOW.**



Sydney Dogs & Cats Home is owned and operated by The Sydney Dogs & Cats Home Incorporated.