

**Oak
Tree**
Animals' Charity



ADOPTING FROM US

Oak Tree Farm, Wetheral Shields, Carlisle, Cumbria, CA4 8JA
Tel: 01228 560082

www.oaktreeanimals.org.uk Registered Charity Numbers 1169511 / SC048389

What do we need to do to adopt an animal?

The fastest way to arrange to adopt an animal is to look at our website for available animals and see if there is one which you feel matches your home and lifestyle. When you see an animal you'd like to learn more about, please contact the Small Animal Team who will ask you to complete a questionnaire. Some of our animals have complex needs or specific environmental and/or training requirements - Please ensure you read all profiles carefully. Our current opening hours are 10.00am - 4.00pm daily. Please call Reception Team on 01228 560082 during those times.



What will the animal have had done?

All animals are de-flea'd, wormed, chipped, neutered (where appropriate), vaccinated and checked by a vet during their time with us. If the animal has only been in for a short while, we may allow the animal to leave before some of these actions have been completed, but we will arrange for them to be carried out later on, either at our site or at our chosen vets in Carlisle.



Unlike animals obtained from many pet shops or free adverts, the worm and flea products used are vet-supplied and animals are supervised by visiting vets during their stay. Any dog who needs assessment will also have been seen by a behaviourist.

What are the adoption fees?

Our standard donation is £200 for a dog, and £100 for a cat. We may alter the fees if an animal is very old or has a condition which is likely to cost money in the first few months after rehoming. You can pay by cash, credit card, or for the time being, cheque.

What if there isn't an animal matching my requirements?

Please continue to monitor the website as new animals arrive all of the time. Press the 'SUBSCRIBE TO UPDATES' button on the rehoming pages to receive emails

when a new animal is added. If you have gone through the consultation/questionnaire process but did not successfully adopt, again please watch the website. The good news is, that if you do see another potential pet, we will already have your full details and can move through the process more quickly.

Are all the animals on your website or in care, at your premises?

Not all animals who are available for adoption will be on site - we also have animals who are out with fosterers, or who are involved in cases being dealt with by our Community Team. Equally, some animals on site may be under assessment and not ready for adoption yet.



Will I need a home visit?

We may carry out a home visit if the home or animal's circumstances are such that there are unusual requirements. We sometimes bring prospective dogs to the home visit with us as well. The home visit may be before or after choosing a specific animal - it will depend on individual circumstances.



I live a long distance away:

Please talk to us in advance, as if we are aware of transport issues, we can try and shortcut the process, or help by delivering an animal.

Can I take an animal home on the same day?

In almost all cases, no, however it may be possible to reserve a new friend on the same day. We can reserve an animal for a few days or sometimes longer until you are ready for it to come home.



There must be something wrong with the animal for it to have ended up in a shelter.

Far from it - most animals are here because their former owner's circumstances changed unexpectedly, or the former owner failed to provide for the animal's training or behavioural needs, or because someone somewhere didn't get their pet neutered. We also take in a lot of animals which had originally been bought on impulse from pet shops, off the internet, from farms, or from free adverts. None of these things are the animals' fault. Please do remember that dogs and cats have normal behaviours which they need to express - that means toileting, making a noise, scratching, chewing, and climbing among others. We can work with you to ensure you know how to fit these behaviours into your lifestyle, and we always undertake to accept an animal back into our care if things don't work out.