

# **ADOPTING A DOG FROM DANAHER ANIMAL HOME**

Staff are here to ensure the animals find homes which suit their needs. Most animals in our care have not had the best start in life and may require special care or training. We will assess your experience and assist you in finding the right pet for your home.

Although we want our animals to start their new life with you as quickly as possible, our re-homing process can take a few weeks from start to finish. The process is as follows: –

- Fill in our Adoption questionnaire form in Reception.
- Have a look around our rehoming kennels and choose a dog that is best suited to your level of experience:  
Basic (Green)                      Intermediate (Orange)                      Advanced (Blue)  
Please see our Colour Code Chart for more information on levels of experience.
- We work on an appointment system so we may require you to make an appointment for another day.
- Supervised 1<sup>st</sup> meet: A member of staff will take the dog out for a walk with you. You will have the opportunity to spend time with the dog, ask questions and make sure it is a suitable match. If you do not already own a dog and the meet goes well, you can place a Temporary Reserve on our dog and arrange a second meet. Every person who lives permanently in the house where the dog will be staying will need to meet our dog twice before a Full Reserve can be placed.

**PLEASE NOTE:** If you do have a dog (or dogs), you can place a Temporary Reserve on our dog at this stage. However, the dogs will need to meet at least twice before a Full Reserve can be placed. If the dog meet does not go well, you may transfer your deposit onto a different dog at the centre. However if you cannot find one that is suitable or do not want to wait, you will lose your deposit.

- If you own a dog (or dogs) already, they will need to meet your potential new house member at least twice;
  - 1<sup>st</sup> dog meet: The 1<sup>st</sup> dog meet is on lead so the dogs can spend time together in a controlled manner.
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> dog meet: The 2<sup>nd</sup> dog meet starts on lead – if the dogs are mixing well, we will let them off lead in our secure compound to see how they interact. If all goes well, you can place a Full Reserve on our dog.
  - If the meet doesn't go as planned, we can discuss the options of further meets or of looking at other dogs which may be suitable.

**PLEASE NOTE:** We advise that you order an ID tag either at the centre when you place your full reserve or as soon as possible from another shop. You will need to bring your dog tag with you when you come to collect your new pet from the centre. If you have pre-ordered the tag and it has not arrived when you come to collect your new pet, we ask that you bring proof of purchase with you.

- We recommend that after the 2<sup>nd</sup> dog meet, you come up and visit as much as possible so that the dogs can continue to interact. This makes the transition to the new home easier on both (or all) dogs.
- Once a Full Reserve has been placed on the dog, you will be put forward for a home check. Everyone adopting an animal through the centre is subject to a home check under RSPCA Policy, to ensure your home is suitable for your prospective new dog. One of our home checkers will be in touch to arrange a time that is convenient to visit you. This can take up to 7-10 days after the Full Reserve has been placed, but we do try to complete them as quickly as possible.
- The home checker will contact the centre and advise us of their visit. The home checker will advise if your house is ready, or we may be advised that work is needed to be carried out before your home is 'dog-proof', or it might be that the home is not suitable for the dog in question. The centre will contact you to discuss any points raised by the home checker if necessary or to arrange collection of your new pet.

**PLEASE NOTE:** You may not be able to collect until your new pet has been neutered and medically signed off by our vet, if they have been on treatment during their time at the centre. We do allow some animals to be re-homed on treatment, but this is looked at on a case by case basis.

- When you come to collect your dog, you will need to bring a collar, lead and dog tag with you. We do sell them at the centre and the profit made comes back directly to this centre, to benefit the animals here. You will also need to ensure you are able to transport your new pet home safely.