



KITTEN INFORMATION SHEET

So, you have just picked up the new addition to your family! Why don't you book a **free nurse kitten check** at one of our branches, where they can give you lots of advice!

Vaccinations

It is important to vaccinate your kitten to give them immunity against some of the major infections to keep them healthy. Kittens are protected during the first few weeks of life by the antibodies passed to them via their mother's milk. However, this immunity fades at which point vaccination can take over in providing protection.

1st vaccination 9 weeks old
2nd vaccination 3-4 weeks later
Then yearly boosters

This vaccination course will cover your kitten against *Cat Flu*, *Infectious Enteritis* (Feline Panleucopaenia virus) and *Feline Leukaemia*.

Worming and Flea treatment

There are a number of different products available to protect your kitten against fleas and worms. We recommend worming your kitten every two weeks until they are 12 weeks of age. This can be done with panacur paste or a small worming tablet. Unless you have other dogs or cats your kitten will be at low risk from fleas at this age, so we normally only treat them if fleas are seen or your kitten is scratching a lot.

We advise that you keep your kitten indoors until they have been neutered at 5-6 months of age. Once they are going out they can start a regular flea and worm treatment regime. Please discuss with one of our vets which product will suit you and your kitten best.

Microchipping

We recommend that you get your kitten microchipped so they can always be traced back to you. We can do this at the second vaccination or while they are asleep when they come in to be neutered.

Health Club

Our practice membership scheme provides pet owners with the support they need to help their pets stay fit and healthy (ask reception for a full information leaflet or see our website for full details www.breladesvets.com)

Neutering

Neutering stops unwanted behaviour and unwanted pregnancies. It is a routine surgical procedure, and they recover very quickly.

Please see our Neutering Information for Cats sheet on our website.

Diet

A good balanced diet is very important for your kitten and also when they become an adult cat. Here is some information to help you pick a suitable diet:

- Check list for good diets:
- They like the food
- Good solid motions passed
- No regular vomiting or regurgitation
- Coat is shiny and skin healthy
- Able to maintain weight

Some kittens will prefer wet food and some dry. It's not important at this age whether they have wet or dry food. Once they get all their adult teeth (usually by 6 months) dry food has been shown to improve dental hygiene.

Kittens must be fed a kitten diet to ensure that get the right levels of minerals and vitamins etc for growth. Most diets will have a guideline for feeding amounts on the back of the packet, but these can vary with individual animals. Checking your kitten and cat's body condition score and weight will tell you if you are feeding the right amounts- ask your vet or vet nurse to show you how to check this. Your kitten should be having 3- 4 meals a day. This can be slowly weaned down so by 6 months they should ideally be on 2 meals a day.

Why don't you pop down for a **free nurse kitten check** to get more advice!

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