

WHITE MILL VETERINARY CENTRE

for healthy pets in Sandwich & East Kent



What do I feed a kitten?

Kittens usually start eating solid food at around 4 weeks of age but still suckle on their mother. Ready made cat foods that can be bought in the supermarket usually contain a balanced diet for your cat or kitten. There are many brands to choose from, choosing premium brands is not always necessary but you can be assured of total cat nutrition if you stick to the big name brands. Check the packaging for wording such as 'Total nutritional requirements for cats and kittens'.

Give your kitten a variety of foods changing what you give him/her regularly. Kittens can become bored with the same food day in day out and they may refuse to eat. It also helps prevent raising a fussy eater!

Throw away uneaten food. Don't put it back in the fridge to give the kitten later as it could be contaminated by bacteria.

Don't feed your kitten dog food as the nutritional requirements of dogs and cats are very different. Cats/kittens should not be given a lot of fresh food as this can result in a deficiency of important proteins, especially taurine.

Kittens can begin eating dry cat food from an early age and most find it quite enjoyable. There are supermarket brands and there are brands that are only available from your vet or pet food store. The brands that are available from the vets are premium brands such as Hills which are scientifically formulated to meet recommendations of veterinarians and nutritionists.

Dry food can be left down for kittens to graze on throughout the day and night, and additional pouches at meal times.

Water

Your kitten needs fresh water available at all times. Kittens and cats prefer to drink from a china, pottery, or stainless steel dish. Do not put water down in a plastic bowl and avoid using double diners for food and water.