

# WHITE MILL VETERINARY CENTRE

for healthy pets in Sandwich & East Kent



## Introducing a new kitten

Before you rush off to your local cat rescue or breeder, here are a few tips to make bringing home a new kitten as stress free as possible.

Choose a time when your home is not too busy and you will have time to devote to your new kitten and your existing cat (if applicable), for example, avoid holidays or other times when friends and family are likely to visit.

If you already have a cat then you must make sure it has its' own space away from the kitten, to avoid any rivalry. Make sure you supervise when they meet for the first time incase there is a clash in personality.

Litter trays should be in a quiet area and if you have more than one cat a separate tray for each is recommended. Separate feeding bowls should also be provided well away from toilet areas.

Once you have picked your new kitten, take him/her home for a couple of days, once he/she has settled take her/him to your veterinarian to get him/her checked and vaccinated, kittens have weak immune systems and are likely to pick up disease when maternal immunity drops. Consider adopting/purchasing a cat of the opposite sex to your existing cat (if applicable), this will avoid same sex rivalry and associated problems. For a number of reasons all your cats should be speyed/neutered.

## Neutering

Ideally neutering of kittens should be before or around 6 months for both genders. Until this stage your kitten should be kept in confined areas to avoid any unwanted pregnancies.