

Volunteer Position Description

Position: Socialiser Cats and Rabbits

Departments: Cattery

Volunteer Program Coordinator: Stella Molloy	
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Location: 12 Kirkpatrick Street Weston ACT 2611

Hours: Opportunities seven days a week between 1:30-3:30

About the Position

The role of a cattery socialiser is critical for the wellbeing and happiness of cats, kittens and rabbits in our care. Socialisation is about being with our shelter animals so they have the opportunity to have daily positive interaction with a variety of people. Familiarity with humans and handling increases the likelihood of successful adoption.

Key Duties

- Handling and socialisation of cats, kittens and rabbits
- Appropriate play with our cats and kittens

Skills & Qualities

- Positive and friendly attitude
- Willingness to take direction
- Experience with cats, kittens and rabbits (either in a personal or professional capacity)
- Positive and upbeat attitude
- Willingness to take direction
- Attention to detail
- Enjoy changing and dynamic days

Benefits

- Opportunity to interact with cats, kittens and rabbits
- Increased knowledge of animal behaviour and handling
- Participation in a worthwhile cause.

Induction and training

- RSPCA Volunteer Induction
- Practical training session(s) with a member of staff

Mission

To prevent cruelty to animals by actively promoting their care and protection.

Vision

To be the leading authority in animal care and protection.

About RSPCA ACT

RSPCA ACT cares for thousands of animals each year. Our Canberra shelter is a leader in animal welfare outcomes in Australia. We are committed to finding a home for every healthy companion animal and we have no time limits, age limits, or space limits for animals in our care.

RSPCA ACT operates an animal shelter, an animal cruelty inspectorate, a fully equipped veterinary clinic, a pet supply store, dog training classes a cat boarding facility and programs to support vulnerable members of the community. We are supported by dedicated staff and hundreds of volunteers who work to improve the lives of animals in the region.

Additional requirements

- Uniform Compliance
- Working with Vulnerable People Registration
- Tetanus vaccination up to date
- Six-month commitment to volunteering with the RSPCA

Socialiser Cats and Rabbits – Task Analysis

The role of a socialiser requires degree of lifting, bending, squatting and reaching, including within small spaces. Occupants must be able to work independently and with minimal supervision.

Manual Handling	1. Lifting 0-10kg	Regularly	• Animals
	2. Lifting 10kg +	Irregularly	
	3. Bending	Regularly	• Bending in and out of enclosures to socialise with animals
	4. Squatting	Regularly	• Squatting to sit inside of enclosures to socialise with animals
	5. Sitting	Regularly	• Sitting on cold surfaces such as the ground to socialise with animals
Work Environment	6. Works indoors	Regularly	
	7. Works outdoors	Regularly	• Rabbit socialisation • Exposure to weather (sun, cold and rain)
	8. Exposure to biological hazards	Irregularly	• Zoonotic diseases
	9. Exposure to risk of animal scratches/bites	Regularly	

	10. Requirement to wear personal protective equipment (PPE)	Regularly	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gloves • Virkon mask
	11. Exposure to psychosocial risks	Regularly	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Euthanasia • Sick or injured animals