All animals need the following five things to be happy and healthy; a comfortable home, suitable diet, companionship, normal behavior, and vet care. Find out how you can care for cats by using the information below.

**HOME**

Animals need a comfortable home with enough space to exercise.

Here at Wood Green we think cats should be able to go outdoors as indoor cats can become very unhappy. Having a cat flap means that cats can go outside whenever they like!

Most cats like a comfy bed or blanket to snuggle up on or they may decide that they prefer the sofa or your bed!

**DIET**

Animals need a healthy diet and access to fresh water at all times.

Cats like to eat both wet and dry food. You need to make sure that your cat is eating the right amount of food so that it doesn’t become overweight or underweight.

Cats like to drink water and not milk. Milk can make lots of cats very poorly.

**COMPANIONSHIP**

Some animals need friends of their own kind, some would rather live by themselves.

Lots of cats enjoy living on their own and others like to have cat friends, every cat is different. Some cats can share their house with a dog and others are very worried by dogs, again, every cat is different.
NORMAL BEHAVIOUR

Animals need exciting things to do and space to behave normally.

When cats are outside they like to hunt so it is important that they have lots of toys to play with at home that let them practice this inside.

Cats need to have scratching posts around the house in order to mark their territory and to prevent them from doing this on your carpet or sofa!

VET CARE

Animals need to be kept healthy and see the vet if they are sick or injured.

It is really important to get your cat checked over by a vet at least once a year for a full health check and their vaccinations. These help to protect your cat from nasty illness.

Keeping up with their flea and worming treatment throughout the year is also important as these can affect us, not just our cats! Neutering your cat will help prevent some illnesses and unwanted kittens.

Most cats are LACTOSE INTOLERANT which means that milk can make them VERY POORLY.

The best place to STROKE a cat is its HEAD!

Visit: woodgreen.org.uk