All animals need the following five things to be happy and healthy; a comfortable home, suitable diet, companionship, normal behavior and vet care.

Watch our dog safety video here: www.woodgreen.org.uk/pet_advice/dog_safety

See below to find out how you can care for dogs.

### HOME

**Animals need a comfortable home with enough space to exercise.**

Here at Wood Green we think dogs should live inside our houses. Having access to an outside space and a nice warm bed in the home is really important. Dogs are sociable animals and having a safe place to call home makes them feel like part of the family!

### DIET

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

Dogs are carnivores so need to eat meat. A good quality complete food is best. Feeding the correct amount is also really important to stop dogs becoming over weight or underweight. There should be fresh water available for your dog at all times.

### COMPANIONSHIP

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

Some dogs are ok to live in the same home as other dogs, cats or small animals. However some dogs would prefer to be the only pet in the home with humans as company. Dogs often like to have play mates when out walking in the park for a good run around!
NORMAL BEHAVIOUR

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

There are lots of different breeds of dog and each dog is bred to do a different job. The toys and games your dog will like to play with will depend on the breed, for example:

- **Labradors are retrievers.** They like to carry and bring back soft toys.
- **Terriers like to hunt and find things.** Hiding toys around the house or garden is a great way to keep them busy.
- **Collies are bred to herd.** They love to chase things, so tennis ball games are great for them.

Getting your dog to use its brain is important as well as exercise to help keep your dog active and able to behave normally.

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 dog checked over by the vet at least once a year for a full health check and their vaccinations. These help to protect your dog 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 dogs! Neutering your dog will help prevent some illness and unwanted puppies.

From 2016 ALL DOGS must be MICROCHIPPED!

Dalmatians are born WITHOUT THEIR SPOTS! They appear as they get older.

A dog’s sense of HEARING is 10 TIMES BETTER than ours!