

Minimum Veterinary Standards

	Who?	When?	Remember
Vet check	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Every cat in Cats Protection care 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ASAP after coming into care If cat becomes unwell/behaviour change Rechecks for ongoing condition Recheck every three months if still in care 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not fit to home until condition resolved or stabilised Protocols and guidance available on the website Contact the Cats Protection veterinary team for: difficult cases, outbreaks, spending over £500
Microchip	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All cats not already microchipped 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ASAP after coming into care Kittens chipped by 12 weeks of age or sooner Implanted by a vet as part of clinical exam or operation Chip registered to Cats Protection upon implantation, and keepership transferred to owner at point of adoption Strays with no microchip can be chipped after seven days 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scan for a chip ASAP after coming into care Chipped strays can't be rehomed for 16 days
Vaccinate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All cats not fully vaccinated, including pregnant cats entering a cat centre or multi-pen site (FHV, FCV, FPV, FeLV) For pregnant cats entering a single foster room or pen, discuss with vet For lactating cats, discuss with vet 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ASAP after coming into care From eight weeks of age At least 48 hours before neutering procedure Not within 48 hours of rehoming 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two-vaccine course with matching brands Refer to our vaccination FAQs
Neuter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All cats must be neutered before homing (kittens may be homed with a neutering voucher) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kitten neutering from two days after first vaccine Pregnant cats neutered if vet agrees Lactating cats neutered if vet agrees Strays: neuter after day seven unless under general anaesthetic for urgent treatment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Check the Stray Policy Do not delay homing of kittens as they can be homed with a neutering voucher if necessary
Parasite treatment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All adult cats and kittens over six weeks of age (including pregnant and lactating cats) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> After first vet check Repeated monthly in kittens until six months old Repeated in cats over six months old only if required based on veterinary advice 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Check Cats Protection 'routine parasite control procedures'
Blood test	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Test all higher risk cats for FIV and FeLV 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ASAP after coming into care (including strays) Do not wait to test pregnant/lactating cats Check flowchart for kittens under six months old 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Check the Cats Protection FIV/FeLV flow charts for further guidance

Further details on Cats Protection minimum veterinary standards can be found in the [Veterinary Guide](#) or on the Cat Information Hub

Checklist before leaving Cats Protection care

- Minimum veterinary standards completed
- Vet signed off cat as fit to home
- Medical Summary Form completed
- Adoption Form and Insurance Forms completed

