



**RSPCA Manchester  
& Salford Branch**

Registered Charity No. 232255



## Thinking of adopting a guinea pig from us?

Have a read of our adoption requirements below!

### Essential criteria

- ✓ **We do not rehome guinea pigs to live entirely in a hutch or cage** as this does not provide sufficient space or enrichment to express their natural behaviour. Minimum size accommodation is a **5ft (L) x 2ft (W) hutch or indoor setup** with daily access to a similar sized secure run or space to explore & exercise. **We highly recommend C&C cages** for guinea pigs living indoors; see our **housing guide** on our website for more information.
- ✓ **All animals in the adopter's home must be neutered & fully vaccinated** (where applicable).
- ✓ **Guinea pigs are not suitable for children's pets**; an adult over 18 years old must be fully responsible for the animal's care and handling on behalf of the whole family.
- ✓ **We do not rehome single guinea pigs to live alone.** *We can offer bonding support to all our adopters wanting a friend for an existing guinea pig/s. Males must be 6 weeks post-neuter before bonding with a female/s.*
- ✓ If you are new to guinea pig ownership please make sure you have done your research. A great place to start is by reading the series of care guides on our website.

### About our guinea pigs

- ✓ **Our guinea pig adoption fee is £15 per female guinea pig/unneutered male or £25 for a pair. Single neutered male £20 per guinea pig. Pair of neutered pigs £35.00.** This cost includes a specialist exotic vet check.
- ✓ **If you wish to view a guinea pig please contact us at the office on 0161 737 6600.** We keep our guinea pigs in a private boarding facility so we need to discuss your requirements prior to viewing.
- ✓ **Reserving a guinea pig.** We cannot 'hold' animals for longer than 7 days, so please contact us once you have visited the rabbits and decided who you would like to adopt. We will then arrange to do a home visit.
- ✓ **Please do not bring your guinea pig along to the viewing.**

### Home visit

- ✓ We aim to do home visits within 5-7 days of a reservation being placed. *If you are privately renting please make sure you have written permission from your landlord to keep a pet in the property.*

#### **The home visit is about:**

- Sharing advice on meeting the welfare needs of a guinea pig.
- Making sure you have a good understanding about the financial implications & commitment involved in adopting your chosen animal.
- Making sure the proposed accommodation meets the behavioural needs of guinea pigs.
- Our home visitors will endeavor to answer any questions you may have so please make a list!

### After the home visit

- ✓ **The outcome of the home visit will be shared with you within 24 hours.** If the home visit is successful we expect you to collect your rabbit within 7 days.
- ✓ **Make sure you have all your supplies ready before collecting your guinea pig.**
- ✓ **Please bring along the adoption fee (cash or cheque) and a carrier when you collect your guinea pig(s).** It sounds obvious but so many people do forget!

### Our promise to you

- ✓ If you are guinea pig bonding at home we are available for advice and support and will keep in regular contact during the process.
- ✓ Your home visitor will contact you 4-6 weeks after the adoption to find out how you are all getting on.
- ✓ We are here for you for the life of your animal—if you have any questions please get in touch.
- ✓ If for any reason in the future you cannot keep your guinea pig they *must* be returned to the branch. Please bear in mind that we will usually need a few days warning to arrange space.