

# The Pets Hotel

## FOR VERY IMPORTANT PETS



## Cat Flu information sheet

**Please note, The Pets Hotel will not accept cats infected by cat flu. As cat flu is caused by viruses, there is no direct cure. Cats that are carriers, remain so for life. The Pets Hotel will not take cats with cat flu.**

Cat flu is a general term for a highly contagious upper respiratory disease that affects cats and kittens. Is caused by one or more viruses including Feline Herpes Virus 1 (FHV1) and Feline Calicivirus (FVC).

Symptoms include:

- sneezing,
- discharge from the eyes or nose,
- fever,
- breathing problems,
- coughing,
- fatigue
- loss of appetite.
- Ulcers on the mouth or eyes.

**\*If the condition becomes severe and is not treated, it can cause permanent eye damage, pneumonia or even death. Kittens and older cats are the worst affected due to lower immunity.**

Cat flu is generally spread by direct contact between cats (through saliva, tears or nasal discharge), but it can also be spread indirectly, such as via food bowls, bedding, litter trays or humans and even other pets.

Humans or other animals are at no risk. It is vital that all cats and kittens be vaccinated against the viruses that cause cat flu- this is also a requirement of The Pets Hotel.

Cats who are carriers can spread the virus to others as they 'shed' the virus during periods of stress such as boarding or transportation.

\*Please note, the vaccine, as with all vaccines, cannot prevent symptoms from occurring if the animal already has the infection at the time of vaccination, i.e vaccinated cats can be carriers without showing any symptoms and can infect other cats. It can take as long as two weeks for signs of flu to appear.