Caring for your Dog
Dogs need a **balanced diet** with crunchy, dry food with some fresh meat or canned food and cooked vegetables.

*Give your dog **raw bones** to keep their teeth healthy.*

*Never* give dogs chocolate or cooked bones.
Make sure your dog has cool, fresh water all the time.

Clean your dog’s water bowl everyday.
Dogs need somewhere to be **safe** from the rain, wind and sun.

- Their beds should be **soft, clean and warm**.

- Dogs can feel scared - your dog may need to come **inside** if there is thunder or fireworks.
Exercise

- Walking, fetching balls and playing frisbee are great ways to exercise dogs.
- **Exercise your dog every day** — even if it is raining.
- It is important to clean up your dogs droppings.
- When you leave your dog at home alone, leave some toys or an uncooked bone to entertain them.
- Remember ... Animals can feel bored too.
Animals can feel lonely too.

Dogs need the company of people and other dogs.

You must spend time playing with your dog everyday.
Dogs must **visit the vet once a year** for a check-up.

Vets give dogs **medicine** to stop them from getting diseases, worms and fleas.

Some dogs need to have a regular hair cut - a person called a **‘dog groomer’** can do this for your pet.

If your dog has long fur, you may need to brush him.
Identification

- **ID** means if your pet gets **lost**, it can be brought home again.

- Your dog **must wear a collar and a name tag** with your phone number at all times.

- Your dog must also have a **microchip** placed under its fur by the vet. This is a permanent ID.
Life Span

- Large dogs can live for around 8-15 years.
- Small dogs can live for around 12-18 years.
- You must be ready to love and care for your dog for its whole life.