

Found a lone seal?

A seal or seal pup on its own may not necessarily mean it has been abandoned or is in distress. Here is some advice to help you decide if a seal needs help or should be left:

What to do if you find a lone seal pup:

- It is natural for mothers to leave pups for short periods
- Do not approach the pup
- Do not encourage the pup to go into the sea
- If the pup is obviously sick note its location (use groyne numbers)
- Report your concerns to a seal warden
- If there is no seal warden about ring RSPCA 0300 1234 999
- If asked for grid reference:
 - ❖ Horsey Gap car park TG464242
 - ❖ Crinkle Gap entrance TG473233

Pups are occasionally left by their mothers for short times and this is perfectly normal. The pup may also cry whilst it is left which may sound distressing to you but they are perfectly fine.

The most important thing to remember is always to keep your distance and not approach any seals as this can cause unnecessary stress.

Until the pups are three weeks of age they are covered in white downy fur. During this time they are not ready to swim so please do not try to encourage them back into the water.

The pups naturally moult their white fur at around three weeks which can leave them looking a bit patchy - this is perfectly normal.

Weaned pups will often move on to the dunes. Please do not approach them.

If a seal is bleeding from or has a visible injury then please speak to a seal warden or call 1493 748516. Please keep your distance and do not attempt to move a seal yourself.