

Care and Use of Animals Policy

Introduction

At Child Side School teaching and learning activities using animals are carried out where it is essential to the development of learning outcomes and values using real life experiences and animals in order to enrich the learning experiences for children.

Scope and Application

This policy applies to all employees, parents, children and community members of Child Side School. This policy will be reviewed and amended in accordance with Child Side School Policy on Policies and Policy Guidelines and Procedures Contents Schedule.

The use of the word child/children in this policy refers to students in the context of the school environment.

Related Legislation/Guidelines

- Animal Ethics Committee of Western Australia Guidelines

Related Policies

- Child Code of Conduct Policy
- Code of Conduct Policy
- Duty of Care Policy
- Work Health and Safety Policy

Related Documents

- Child Side School Enrolment Form

Policy Statement

At all times we comply with the requirements of the Australian code of Practice for the care and use of animals for scientific purposes. Child Side School follows the guidelines set out by the 'Schools Animal Ethics Committee of Western Australia' (SAEC). At Child Side School animals are used in ways described in categories 1 and 2 as described below and are SAEC approved.

Category 1

Observational studies of animals involving no direct contact by students.

Category 2

Basic handling, feeding and care of animals. No breeding (except fish).

Responsibilities of Educators:

To proceed with activities concerning animals relating to category 1 or 2 ensuring an appropriate level of supervision of children and animal care.

The Online Animal Ethics System is to be used by educators to submit applications and principals to submit annual animal use reports electronically.

An Annual Report is required for schools using animals in teaching activities with a science component, whether the activity required prior approval or not. For example, sustainability programs that use laying hens do not require prior approval but those hens should be included on an Annual Report and submitted online.

Version Management

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