

Use of Animals Policy 2015

I. Aims

- A. To expose students to a wide variety of learning experiences.
- B. To care for animals kept at school:
 - 1. as pets
 - 2. for the purpose of achieving a specific educational aim.

II. Principles

- A. We believe keeping pets is a learning experience in itself.
- B. From time to time we bring animals into the school to achieve a specific educational aim. For example, hatching chicken eggs and studying their growth, keeping yabbies as part of a pond life topic, or bringing in animals to sketch for an art project.
- C. At all times we comply with the requirements of the Australian Code of Practice for the care and use of animals for scientific purposes, in ethics and in deed.
 - 1. We keep a register of projects involving the use of animals at school.
 - 2. We have a licence for the use of animals for scientific purposes in school.

III. Responsibilities

A. Coordinator

- 1. Applying for licence for use of animals annually
- 2. Ensuring submissions for the use of animals as part of the educational program are submitted by teachers within the correct timeframes (see SAEC website for schedule of Animal Ethics Committee meetings, week 3 and 8 of each term).
- 3. Ensuring all animals at school are properly cared for SAEC guidelines for care and handling are adhered to
- 4. Prepare Annual Report and provide to SAEC

B. Teachers

- 1. Submitting a proposal for the use of animals as part of their educational program as per SAEC guidelines (see reference), prior to due date
- 2. Directing students on how to take care of the school's pets and how to treat them gently.

- C. Ensuring animals they bring into the school as part of their program are cared for. **Students**

1. Caring for pets, as directed by teachers.
2. Treating the pets gently and help other students do so.
3. Treating all animals used in the educational program with care, as directed by teachers.

IV. References

- A. School Animal Ethics Committee Guidelines for the care and use of animals in Western Australian schools available at <http://www.det.wa.edu.au/curriculum-support/animalethics/detcms/portal/>

V. Related Legislation

- A. Animal Welfare Act 2002
- B. National Health and Medical Research Council's *Code for the care and use of Animals for Scientific Purposes (2013, 8th Edition)*.
- C. Education Act 2000

VI. Related Kerry Street Documentation

- A. Curriculum Policy
- B. Licence to use animals for scientific purposes
- C. [FORM A1](#): Proposal for the use of animals: primary and secondary schools

VII. Authorisation and Review

- A. This policy was read, discussed and authorised by the Kerry Street Community School Council on 12/1/05
- B. Reviewed on 13/1/06 by meeting of staff and council
- C. Reviewed by Council and Coordinator March 2015

Helen Sugars Duff

