



ANIMAL WELFARE POLICY

Rationale

Animals are kept on school grounds to satisfy educational objectives of coursework. The *Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1979 (NSW)* applies to all people in NSW at all times and deals with the cruel and unconscionable treatment of all animals. In addition the use of animals for educational purposes is governed by the *Animal Research Act 1985 (NSW)* and the *Australian code of practice for the care and use of animals for scientific purposes*.

See the Department of Education Animal Welfare policy:

<https://education.nsw.gov.au/policy-library/policies/animal-welfare-policy-schools?refid=285776>

Outcomes

- To appoint an Animal Welfare Liaison Officer (AWLO).
- To ensure daily inspection of animals and access to veterinary care for animals where applicable.
- To maintain comprehensive records documenting acquisition, disposal and husbandry activities carried out with the animals kept by the school.
- To develop evacuation and emergency plans that include that the welfare of animals is safeguarded.
- To ensure that any incidence of animal cruelty is reported.

Implementation

- Appointment of an Animal Welfare Liaison Officer (AWLO).
- Inspection of animals daily and provision of veterinary care for animals when needed.
- Development and maintenance of comprehensive records documenting acquisition, disposal and husbandry activities carried out with the animals kept by the school, including documentation pertaining to the school's National Vendor Declaration.
- Developing evacuation and emergency plans that will include that the welfare of animals is safeguarded.
- Reporting any incidence of animal cruelty.

Evaluation

Policy to be evaluated annually to ensure that outcomes are being met.