

Animals in School Policy

Rationale

St Philomena's is committed to appropriate and responsible animal welfare practices. The school's policy aims to:

- ensure the need for animals in the school is competently assessed
- provide effective animal control where this is justified
- ensure that animal welfare practices do not pose a threat to the health or safety of staff, students or visitors to the school
- minimise environmental damage from animals at school.

Aims

The school will ensure that:

- legislative requirements are complied with (Animal Research Act 1985)
- appropriate hygiene and sanitation practices are observed when handling animals
- animals brought for show and tell are handled effectively while minimising risks to health, safety or the environment
- only licensed operators display animals at school (ie. Reptile Park)
- notifications are made as appropriate and required information is obtained before display
- insurance and liability issues receive due attention
- the 'Animals in School Register' is filled out when animals come into the school

Implementation

The day to day responsibility for ensuring that these objectives are met rests with the teaching staff.

Evaluation

This policy will be evaluated when issues arise concerning animals and when new legislative requirements are imposed by the animal research review panel.

St Philomena's School

Animals in Schools Register

<u>Class</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Animal Species</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Length of Time at school</u>	<u>Reason why animal at school</u>

Please return this form to the office at the end of each term.

Animal Welfare Procedure

St Philomena's School is committed to appropriate and responsible animal welfare practices.

To ensure an appropriate standard is met at St Philomena's School:

- No animals are used for experimentation at St Philomena's School.
- Appropriate hygiene and sanitation practices are observed when animals are displayed at St Philomena's School
- Classroom teachers are responsible for animals displayed in their room.
- Stray dogs at school are tied up, given shade and water and the pound is called.
- Children are required to clean their hands after touching animals.
- An education program operates in the PD/Health/PE Program regarding safe handling of animals.
- The Assistant Principal is to ensure all visiting shows involving animals conform to the Act. (1985)

Last review March 09next review March 11