



POLICY : Animals in the Centre

Links:

Regulations; HS12, HS16

Reg 46

Caring for Animals (1999)

Rationale & Objectives:

To provide opportunities for children to observe, handle and care for a range of animals in a humane way.

All animals at Lumsden Kindergarten will be kept safe and be well cared for.

Procedures:

- All living creatures at Lumsden Kindergarten will be treated with care and respect. The team will model appropriate care and handling of animals to the children.
- Animals kept at the Centre will have their needs provided for.
- Animals kept at Lumsden Kindergarten will be kept in accordance with the conditions relevant to the species outlined in section 3 of ***Caring for Animals (1999)***
- Team members will arrange suitable holiday and weekend care.
- All animals when no longer required or unable to be kept will have appropriate arrangements made to return them to their natural habitat (wild animals) or a suitable home found.
- Native animals will not be kept at the Centre but returned to their habitat after being observed by the children.
- Families who would like to bring a pet onto our premises need to ask either the Centre Manager or Tokihi Leader before doing so. We have children who have had traumatic experiences with animals, and we request parent support, respect and understanding around this.
- We also take into consideration children who suffer allergies from animals and families who have religious and cultural rituals linked to animals.

Philosophy: *'Trusting relationships'*

Policy Developed: June 2017

Review Date: June 2019, July 2019, Sept 2021, Dec 2022