

Ratified by B.O.T. Date: August 2017

Review Date: 2020

Signed Chairman:

POLICY TITLE: Animal welfare.

POLICY NUMBER: 10 NAG'S REF: 5

PURPOSE:

To provide for the correct care of animals under your supervision while at the Lake Taupo Christian school.

GUIDELINES / OBJECTIVES:

1. If animals are to be kept in classroom as a classroom pet it is the teachers responsibility to ensure that all reasonable care is taken to maintain the animals well being. Guidelines of how to care for different types of animals are given in the publication "Caring for Animals: A Guide for Teachers, Early Childhood Educators and Students"; Learning Media, Wellington (1999).

2. Animals have the freedom to experience all of the following:

The Five Freedoms

- Proper and sufficient food and water.
- Adequate shelter.
- The opportunity to display normal patterns of behaviour.
- Appropriate physical handling.
- Protection from, and rapid diagnosis of, injury and disease.

3. If an animal is too be used as part of a lesson or school project, whether completed at school or out of school, in anyway, then the teacher or the students must determine whether an approval from the "Animal Ethics Committee" (AEC) is required. The definition of an animal requiring approval is given from the following statement:
"Animal" means any live member of the animal kingdom that is a mammal, bird, reptile, amphibian, fish (bony or cartilaginous), octopus, squid, crab, lobster or crayfish (including freshwater crayfish), and includes any marsupial pouch young or mammalian foetus, or any avian or reptilian pre-hatched young, that is in the last half of its period of gestation or development."
(From www.nzase.org.nz).

4. If approval is not required for the lesson then the teacher and students will make sure that points 1-5 are followed. If approval is required then an application will be completed and sent to the AEC prior to the lesson or project. Application forms can be downloaded from the following website: www.nzase.org.nz/ethics.html
5. In using animals in a lesson the following guidelines should be followed as stated on the NZASE website.

The 3R's

In 1959 two UK scientists, Russell and Burch, introduced to scientific researchers the 3R's concept as goals for animal welfare in research and teaching

- **Replacement**
Using alternatives to live animals eg. Computer simulations.
- **Reduction**
Improving experimental design to ensure that no fewer and no more animals are used than are required to achieve the objectives of the work.
- **Refinement**
Minimising pain and suffering by refining techniques, eg enhanced environment, pain relief.