

## **ANIMALS IN SCHOOLS**

### **Background**

Work with animals in the school may give students a better understanding of life processes and a greater respect for life. Students shall also acquire appropriate techniques in the care and handling of live, captive animals.

Projects and activities that involve any species of animal must be planned in a manner which protects the health, safety and well-being of the students involved. Humane treatment of the animals shall prevail at all times.

### **Procedures**

1. When using live animals, teachers shall:
  - 1.1 Determine if any students involved are allergic to or have a phobia in relation to the animal;
  - 1.2 Ensure that use of the animals is consistent with the objectives of the relevant curriculum;
  - 1.3 Ensure that the animals receive routine care on holidays and weekends with humane care being a requirement;
  - 1.4 Refrain from experiments involving food deprivation, discomfort, pain, exposure to noxious or toxic substances, carcinogens or pathogens;
  - 1.5 Involve a knowledgeable person whenever the teacher is not aware of special requirements of the animal;
  - 1.6 Dissect animals only when the animals are dead and that the teacher is reasonably sure will not affect any of the students negatively; and
  - 1.7 Consult appropriate authorities to determine if the animal may be used legally in the classroom.

Reference: Section 20, 45, 60, 61, 113 School Act  
Guide to Education ECS to Grade 12