

## Policy 24: Animals and Pets

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### **NATIONAL QUALITY STANDARDS**

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| QA2 | 2.3.2 | Every reasonable precaution is taken to protect children from harm and any hazard likely to cause injury.            |
| QA3 | 3.1.1 | Outdoor and indoor spaces, buildings, furniture, equipment, facilities and resources are suitable for their purpose. |
|     | 3.3   | The service takes an active role in caring for its environment and contributes to a sustainable future.              |
|     | 3.3.2 | Children are supported to become environmentally responsible and show respect for the environment.                   |

### **NATIONAL REGULATIONS**

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| Regs | 168 | Policies and procedures are required in relation to health and safety |
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### **EARLY YEARS LEARNING FRAMEWORK**

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| LO | Children become socially responsible and show respect for the environment |
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### **AIM**

Lady Forster Kindergarten aims to provide a safe and hygienic environment that minimises the risk of a child being harmed by an animal. We also aim to educate children in the proper care of animals.

### **IMPLEMENTATION**

- Children must be closely supervised when accessing any animal or pet at the service.
- Any animal or pet kept at the Kindergarten will be regularly fed, cleaned, vaccinated, have flea powder applied to them and be regularly checked for fleas and wormed. Any animal in a cage will have its cage cleaned daily.
- Animal or pets will not be allowed in the sandpit or any other play area. In event that this happens, educators will refer to the Sand Pit Policy.
- Animal or pets will never be taken into the food preparation area nor will they be allowed near the eating or sleeping area.
- Anyone who has handled the animal or pet will immediately wash their hands after they have finished handling the animal or pet.

- Children's animal or pets will only be allowed in the Service when permission has been granted by the Nominated Supervisor. If an animal is brought to the Service when families are collecting children it must be left at the gate far enough way so children cannot touch the animal through the fence.
- It will be included in the program how to properly care for animals and how to treat them appropriately.

## **SOURCE**

Relevant legislation and standards include but are not limited to:

- *Education and Care Services National Regulations 2011*
- *National Quality Standard*

## **AUTHORISATION**

This policy was adopted by the Approved Provider of Lady Forster Kindergarten on 29 October 2020.

**NEXT REVIEW DUE BEFORE:** 29 October 2021



*Tammy Rip, President, Lady Forster Committee 2020*