



MICHAEL PARK SCHOOL AND KINDERGARTEN POLICY

ANIMALS IN SCHOOL

Rationale

Michael Park School recognises its legal obligations and moral responsibilities to those species defined as 'animals' under the Animal Welfare Act 1999 with regard to all animals studied or kept at Michael Park School.

Purpose

- To encourage, through example, the proper care of living things within Michael Park School
- To provide opportunities for children/students to observe, handle, and care for a range of animals in humane ways
- To ensure that, in any activity involving the keeping of an animal or its study on a field trip, the welfare of the animal is given high priority
- To educate children/students by example and discussion about the importance of caring for animals and the responsibilities this involves
- To provide opportunities for students to engage with animals thereby promoting well-being

Guidelines

1. The day-to-day care of all vertebrates, and some invertebrates, in the care of people and/or used in experiments and teaching will be governed by the Animal Welfare Act 1999.
2. All living creatures at Michael Park School will be treated with care and respect.
3. Responsibility for the welfare of animals in Michael Park School and any associated costs rests with the teacher involved.
4. Animals kept at Michael Park School will be kept in accordance with the conditions, relevant to the particular species, outlined in Section 3 of *Caring for Animals, 1999*. Species not covered by this section will not be kept.

Ratified by Board/RSST:

Signed for BOT/RSST

Date: 28/08/2017