



Stirling North Childhood Services Centre

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Stirling North Childhood Services Centre Pet Policy

Stirling North Childhood Services Centre has a Guinea Pig called Coconut.

We believe:

It is important to respect and care for animals
Everything needs to be cared for and its surroundings remain hygienic.

The policy is written with consideration of National Quality Standards QA2 2.3.2 and QA 3 3.1.1, 3.3 and 3.3.2 and Regulation 168.

Early Years Learning Framework.

Children become socially responsible and show respect for the environment

Aim

Our service 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 service will be regularly fed, cleaned, vaccinated, have flea powder applied to them and be regularly checked for fleas and wormed. The cage will be cleaned once a week on a Thursday
- Animal or pets will not be allowed in the sand pit or any other play area.
- 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. NQS
- The Centre will pay for the food and buy the food for the Guinea Pig when needed.

- Families who wish to take him home over the weekends may do so. Staff organise a roster, so all families have a fair share.
- Families will also take him over the holidays.

See The Department of Education & Children's Services Code of Practice, Animal Ethics Standard Operating Procedures for use of Animals and DECD Using Animals Documents for further information. (Information located in Directors Filing Cabinet).

The Stirling North Childhood Services Pet Policy is a dynamic document and will be reviewed annually and to meet the current needs of children accessing the site.

Melanie Hocking
Governing Council Chairperson

Robyn Rosenzweig
Preschool Director

Date: _____

Date: _____

Endorsed and Ratified by Staff and Governing Council March 2015

To be reviewed March 2016