

Animals Policy

Purpose

At Peak Sports and Learning we believe it be important that children learn through life skills such as caring for pets and animals. We understand the importance of those centres that do have animals ensure the animal is adequately cared for. This is necessary for the health and safety of the children and to ensure the protection of animal rights.

Considerations

Education and Care Services National Regulations	National Quality Standard/s	Other Service policies/documentation	Other
Regulations: 90, 103, 168	QA 2, Element 2.2.1 QA 3, Elements 3.1.1, 3.1.2, 3.2.1	Health, hygiene and cleaning policy Medical Conditions policy	

Procedures

- Animals kept at the service shall only include low maintenance animals such as fish, hermit crabs etc.
- Any animals cared for by this service will be given adequate care. Children will be given the opportunity to share in the responsibility of looking after any animals in care. Animals cared for by the service will have plenty of food, water, air, bedding and shelter.
- Animals kept on the premises shall be maintained in a clean and healthy condition and will in no way be detrimental to the wellbeing of the children.
- Children will be closely supervised when handling any animal products or animals.
- Children and educators will wash their hands after handling animals.
- The children’s safety and health is not to be put at risk by any animals kept at the service. Medical forms must be checked for any pet allergies.
- Families pets are not to be bought into the centre without prior approval from the Nominated Supervisor. When an animal is bought to the service it must remain on the outside of the grounds and far enough away for children not to touch it.
- Where animals are involved as part of an incursion or excursion day during Vacation Care, it will be through a professional group that has necessary measures to ensure the health and safety of animals.
- Where a child has relevant allergies that may impact their participation, Educators will check with parents the suitability for participation and where child’s health is at risk alternative activities will be organized.
- Some services may have individual risks associated with their geographic location which will be addressed in their individual Centre Risk Assessment. E.g. Sanctuary Point, kangaroo presence on site.

- Where an animal is found to wander onto the service grounds, the children are to be moved away from the animal and call the necessary contact to assist. Relevant contacts include:
 - Wollongong City Council Ph. 4227 7111
 - Shellharbour City Council Ph. 4221 6111
 - Shoalhaven City Council Ph. 4429 3410
 - RSPCA Unanderra Ph. 4271 3410
 - WIRES for an injured native animal 1300 094 737

Version Control Table

Version Control	Date Released	Next Review	Approved by	Amendment
1	Jan 2014	March 2018	Directors	Amendments to procedures as needed annually.
2	March 2018	December 2019	Directors	Version Control table introduced.
3	December 2019	December 2020	Directors	Reviewed and added relevant contact numbers.
4	March 2020	July 2020	Directors	Reviewed with no amendments. Moved to new document review timeline.
5	July 2020	July 2022	Directors	No amendments
6	July 2022	July 2024	Directors	Small amendments for participation discussions with parents around in-service activities such as Matildas Farmyard. Centre risk assessments to note individual animal risk.