

POL2-0013 Pets

The policy as required by

Education and Care Services National Regulations, 2012 – 'Regulations'	168
National Quality Standards for Early Childhood Education and Care and School Age Care (2010)	Standard 2.3 Elements 2.3.2 Standard 3.1 Elements 3.1.1 Standard 3.3 Elements 3.3.2

Policy control

Version number	1
Version date	1 August 2018
Summary of changes	Reviewed without changes

Related Policies

Children supervision	POL2-0001
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Related Procedures

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.

Pets help children from a young age to learn to care for other living things. They can teach a sense of responsibility, caring and tolerance. They can offer many opportunities for developing observational skills and basic natural science experiences. If the Educator wish to have a pet in the service, they must make all the decisions in consultation with the Nominated Supervisor. Families need to be advise in the enrolment about the pet policy.

All interaction between the family day care service pets and the children in care will be supervised. Carers will minimise health risks for children from contact with pets and animals, such as injuries, infections and allergies.

- BLUE LAB will ensure that any pet at the place is maintained in a clean, healthy condition and the place where the pets reside is well maintained and cleaned regularly. Pets can be kept separate and apart from any area used by the children unless the pet is directly supervised by the Carer.
- Children, who are interacting with pets must be in the Carer's sight at all times.
- BLUE LAB will ensure that parents are aware of any pet kept at the service and will be sensitive to the anxieties of parents and children.
- The Educator keeps documents of pet's vaccination, worming and flea treatments.
- Pet food, water dishes, pet's toys will be inaccessible to children.
- Animal or pets will not be allowed in the sand pit
- Pets will not have access to the areas when children have their meals.
- Children and Carers must wash their hands after handling pets.
- 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 far enough so children cannot touch the animal.
- It will be included in the program how to properly care for animals and how to treat them appropriately.