

**ANIMAL WELFARE PROCEDURE****RATIONALE**

Animals are used in teaching for a variety of reasons. Most classroom animal use in New Zealand involves family pets brought to school for simple observation and behaviour studies and for learning the responsibilities of humane care. Birds, cats, chickens, cows, dogs, eels, fish, frogs, goats, guinea pigs, horses, mice, mud crabs, rabbits, rats and sheep are among the animals used in New Zealand schools.

Attitudes towards animals are formed early in life. For many students school may be the first place where they gain experience on how to handle and look after animals

The NZASE schools' code 'Code of Ethical Conduct 2019' is designed so that schools are able to use specified animals in research and teaching in compliance with the Animal Welfare Act 2022. The Code also covers individual or groups of students of school age who are participants in programmes and regional and national events such as Science and Technology Fairs, CREST Awards and the Bright Sparks Programme.

PURPOSE

The School Board recognises that the welfare of all animals in its care must meet the requirements of code of ethical conduct for the use of animals.

PROCEDURE

1. To ensure that the welfare and treatment of all animals meets the requirements of the Animal Welfare Act 2022 and all relevant amendment legislation.
2. Students respect animals as living organisms.
3. Students learn about animal welfare and how animals' needs must be met at all times.
4. Students observe the complete life history of an animal.
5. Students identify and investigate the range of environmental, physiological and behavioural factors influencing living animals.
6. Students understand the complexity of environmental interactions affecting animals.

This procedure was issued by the Principal November 2021.

This procedure will be reviewed on / before November 2024.

PRINCIPAL

11 November 2021
DATE: