



**GROW, LEARN, SUCCEED TOGETHER!**

**LLANRHIDIAN PRIMARY SCHOOL  
PETS IN SCHOOL POLICY  
ENDORSED BY GOVERNING BODY**



The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) is at the heart of our school's planning, policies, practice and ethos. As a rights-respecting school we not only teach about children's rights but also model rights and respect in all relationships. Our belief in "restorative approaches" ensures that every child is listened to.

Studies show that encouraging children to take an interest in animals can have a positive effect on them and can be used to improve human and animal welfare. Some of the benefits have been identified as follows:

**School pets have been found to:**

- motivate pupils to think and to learn, as children have a high level of natural interest, enthusiasm and enjoyment of animals
- encourage a respect and reverence for life in pupils and thereby improve their relationships with other pupils, parents and teachers
- foster a sense of responsibility in children
- teach children to nurture and respect life
- lead to the development of hobbies / careers in animal care
- improve academic achievement

**Pets in schools also have social benefits for the school community:**

- enhance the learning environment, creating a sense of security and family warmth for the pupils
- encourage the involvement of parents and the wider community in school activity
- help to promote the school as an important nurturing influence in the community

**Looking after a school pet**

At Llanrhidian we aim to promote good practice in animal care. Children are taught correct procedures in handling and caring for animals; they are encouraged to take a shared responsibility for the care of the animals, under direct supervision. Children will be taught how to interact gently with our school pets whilst under adult supervision.

**At Llanrhidian we:**

- obtain well socialised young animals from a reputable source
- ensure that each animal enjoys an optimum environment, in social groups. If appropriate. We are aware that keeping mixed gender animals can lead to breeding and result in welfare problems
- routine preventive health measures are practised as advised by the vet – vaccination, flea prevention and worm control where appropriate
- pets and their quarters are kept clean and safe at all times
- a high quality, appropriate diet is provided
- children always wash hands after handling
- any sick animals are promptly isolated and examined by a vet



**"Inspiring our children to be the best they can be!"  
Vision Statement 2012**





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- careful arrangements for holiday and weekend care are made



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