

We nurture each student's learning and well-being in a safe, responsive, and inclusive learning community.

# **Regulation 6163.7**

CLASSROOM PETS

Approved and Renumbered (previously 6163.6): February 25, 2019

## Background

The purpose of this procedure is to ensure the greatest possible level of safety for students, staff and animals with regards to pet animals kept in school buildings.

## 1.0 The animals shall:

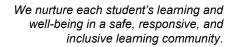
- 1.1 Not be allowed to roam freely within the school setting and should be confined to a habitat within the classroom
- 1.2 Be cared for during holiday periods.

## 2.0 Principals shall:

2.1. Be consulted and provide a decision prior to the inclusion of a live animal in the classroom.

### 3.0 Teachers shall:

- 3.1 Ensure that the following conditions have been met prior to introducing an animal into a classroom:
  - 3.1.1. Procedures on the safe handling and care of the animal are posted and reviewed with the students which states that the animal is only handled by students when:
    - 3.1.1.1. It does not endanger or stress the animal;
    - 3.1.1.2. The handling of the animal is related to the curriculum being taught;
    - 3.1.1.3. The handling of the animal is in accordance to species-specific handling instructions; and
    - 3.1.1.4. The student is directly supervised by the experienced caregiver or teacher.
  - 3.1.2. Procedures for the feeding of the animal and maintenance of the enclosure for hygienic purposes are established.
  - 3.1.3. Parent(s) or guardian(s) are informed of the intent to keep classroom pet(s).
- 3.2 Take responsibility for the care and welfare of the animal during weekends, holidays, and school breaks.
- 3.3 Ensure that an animal is removed from the classroom if the animal may place the safety of children/or staff in jeopardy or is a health hazard for students/staff or is an impediment to learning.
- 3.4 Be responsible for the removal of:





- 3.4.1 All refuse or waste pertaining to classroom animals and placed in the appropriate receptacle safely; and
- 3.4.2 The animal, in the event of death, is to be disposed of in a manner that is safe and sensitive to student emotions.