School Pets and Animals Risk Assessment





Significant Hazard and possible Outcomes/injuries	Control Measures in Place	Are any additional measures or actions required? (if yes put on the Action Plan)	
-		Yes	No
Information Are the Pets considered to be suitable for children?	Any animals in our schools will be researched to make sure they are appropriate for interaction with children, staff and parents. This will include breed, size and characteristics. Likewise, the school will be able to give them the care they need.		
Is a member of staff responsible	Currently at BCPS and WCPS we have Pygmy Goats: Yes, a rota of responsible staff is		

for the welfare of the animals taking into account weekend and holiday periods?	in place including weekends and holidays. The goats are monitored constantly for well being and have regular vet involvement. At BCPS we have a school dog: Our School dog has an owner and goes home with them at night and is being trained in the environment, well socialised, and insured to be in school. Dogs need to be under control and supervised at all times and require a quiet place where they can choose to go for alone time (dogs like regular sleep and rest throughout the day). Like all dogs, they will need to be well exercised, given a good diet and provided with enrichment to keep them happy. It's also key for owners taking a dog into a school to have an excellent understanding of dog body language and a brilliant relationship with the pet.	
Are appropriate arrangements in place to ensure that staff receive adequate information / instruction regarding the keeping and handling of school pets?	Yes, information is shared with staff and available on the school SharePoint pages. Information is also displayed by the goats and in the food storage shed. Children will be encouraged to engage fully with the Goats and any other pets, feeding and caring for them, grooming them and keeping them engaged with regular visiting, handling, caring etc. adults will accompany children at all times.	
Disease Have the animals been purchased from reputable suppliers? Have the pets been vaccinated against known diseases?	Yes, the goats have been purchased from Carol Partridge, all handling forms etc. have been completed, they have had all their vaccinations. Yes, the school dog has had all vaccinations. Flea treatment is carried out at monthly intervals. Worming treatment is carried out compliant with European Vet guidelines, at 3 monthly intervals. The dog will not go in the school dining hall at mealtimes; he will not be permitted into the food preparation area of the kitchen or the Food technology room	
Are arrangements in place for staff to wipe down work surfaces if the animals have	The goats will not be going into areas of the school which would need this action, children and staff will visit the goats in their enclosure. Other animals, the school will provide adequate equipment to be able to clean areas and surfaces.	

been allowed on the surfaces e.g. appropriate disinfectant?		
Are staff and pupils instructed to wash their hands before and after contact?	Yes, there are hand sanitiser units by each gate to use. School toilets and most classrooms have sinks with soap and hand dryers or paper towels, we also have bottles of sanitiser available.	
Is appropriate personal protective clothing/equipment available e.g. gloves, dust masks and aprons?	Children/adults cleaning the goats house need to wear plastic gloves. Shoe protectors or wellies used by children and staff.	
Is the housing and enclosure inspected on a regular basis for damage?	Yes, the maintenance team will do regular inspections of the house and enclosure including the patio, benches and goats climbing frame. The hay rack, feeding trough and water buckets will also be checked. This would be the same for any other pet at the school.	
Allergic Reactions Do staff or pupils have any known allergic reactions to animals, bedding, feed?	Parents have been asked to inform the school of any known allergies, those with allergies would be able to opt out of interaction. Children will be taught to wash their hands after active interaction. If a child should show signs of an allergic reaction to any school pet, then appropriate first aid will be given, and the parents will be informed. Children will be given strict instruction to not eat any of the food intended for the animals or their droppings.	

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Slips, trips and falls Are arrangements in place to prevent: Falling Tripping Entrapment Crush injuries Impact	Yes, children are supervised and told not to run in the goat enclosure or climb on the equipment or fencing around the enclosure. The enclosure, patio and grassed areas will be regularly checked by the facilities team. The same principles with necessary adjustments will apply for any animal in our schools.		
Bites and Scratches Are arrangements in place for first aid e.g. to wash all animal bites and scratches and to seek medical advice if in doubt about the risk of	Yes, the schools have ample facilities to wash any scratches, we also have a school nurse on site for advice and a number of school first aiders		
infection? Are there arrangements to prevent animals getting over excited and scratching or biting.	Pupils have been, and continue to be, taught the impact of their actions. Education of this nature is continually given to children, and often to whole school during assemblies, class time and PSHE lessons. Pupils will be taught what to do to prevent over stimulating or upsetting the animals and how to remain calm around them. All animals will attend the vets' regularly to make sure they are in good health, or the vet will visit.		
Substances Are any substances used for cleaning covered by COSHH?	Yes, COSHH sheets are in a folder and in TEAMS files.		
Are any medicines/treatments stored securely?	Yes, they are stored in locked cabinets in the maintenance sheds. Treatments are only stored when needed and prescribed by our Vets practise.		
Claims: Claim made against the school re: pet behaviour	The Trust has public liability Insurance		

Assessor's Recommendations - Additional Control Measures or Actions			
List Actions / Additional Control Measures	Date action to be carried out	Person Responsible	

Signed: CEO Headteacher:	•••••	Date
H&S Officer Board of Trustees	Date	

The outcome of this assessment should be shared with the relevant staff.

A copy of the completed assessment to be kept on file and copied to the Health & Safety Co-ordinator.