**Animal and Pet Policy**

Linked to National Quality Framework and Standards – ACECQA 2017

***Quality area 2– Children’s health and safety***

**2.2 Safety- Each child is protected**

2.2.1 Supervision

At all times, reasonable precautions and adequate supervision ensure children are protected from harm and hazard.

 ***Quality Area 3- Physical environment***

**3.1 Design- The design of the facilities is appropriate for the operation of a service**

3.1.1 Fit for purpose

Outdoor and indoor spaces, buildings, fixtures and fittings are suitable for their purpose, including supporting the access of every child.

3.1.2 Upkeep

Premises, furniture and equipment are safe, clean and well maintained

Linked to Education and Care Services National regulations (2011) and Education and Early Childhood Services

(Registration and Standards) Law 2011

**Regulation 168, 86,87,99,100,101,102,166**

**Law 167, 169,170, 189,**

**Policy statement**

Toybox Community Child Care Centre 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.

**Implementation**

* Children must be closely supervised when accessing any animal or pet at the service.
* Any animal or pet kept at Toybox CCCC will be regularly fed, cleaned, vaccinated, have flea powder applied to them and be regularly checked for fleas and wormed. Any animal in a cage will have its cage cleaned daily.
* Animal or pets will not be allowed in the sandpit or any other play area. In event that this happens, educators will refer to the Sand Pit Policy.
* Outdoor safety checks will be carried out before children use the yard.
* Animals or pets will never be taken into the food preparation area nor will they be allowed near the eating or sleeping area.
* Anyone who has handled the animal or pet will *immediately* wash their hands after they have finished handling the animal or pet.
* Children’s animal or pets will only be allowed at Toybox CCCC 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 at the gate far enough way so children cannot touch the animal through the fence.
* How to properly care for animals and how to treat them appropriately will be included in the program.
* Visitors bringing animals into the service are to be supervised at all times and will adhere to centre policies and take guidance from the staff involved.
* Any excursions involving animals will have a risk assessment carried out beforehand, clear guidelines on the management of animals and any connection with the children will be explained thoroughly to the staff and helpers attending. Children will have plenty of time to discuss the excursion and what to do around animals

**Source**

**Education and Care Services National Regulations 2011**

**National Quality Standard 2017**

**Review**

The policy will be reviewed annually

The review will be conducted by:

* Management
* Employees
* Families
* Interested Parties

**Last reviewed: June 2014**

**Updated Oct 2017**