

<b>Procedure Title</b>	<b>Animal Care</b>		
<b>Date of Issue</b>	November 13, 2013	<b>Related Policy</b>	
<b>Revision Dates</b>		<b>Related Forms</b>	
<b>Review Date</b>	November 1, 2018	<b>Originator</b>	Administrative Council
<b>References</b>			
OSPCA Guidelines; AP 6809-D “Service Dog/Companion Dog (Use of in School)”; Ontario Regulation 429/07 Accessibility Standards for Customer Service; AP 3851-D “Biological Hazards”; AP 6804-D “Anaphylaxis (Life-Threatening Allergic Reaction)”			
<b>Procedure:</b>			

**1.0 RATIONALE**

Bluewater District School Board recognizes that the presence of animals in classrooms may contribute to student learning and may be useful in the achievement of instructional outcomes.

**2.0 PROCEDURE**

- 2.1 Bluewater District School Board does not allow experiments to be conducted using live animals in any of its schools.
- 2.2 An animal including service dogs (please refer to Administrative Procedure AP 6809-D “Service Dog/Companion Dog (Use of in School)” for specific requirements according to Ontario Regulation 429/07 Accessibility Standards for Customer Service) may be brought into a school to support student learning. Such animals will be handled by students only after proper handling and hygienic techniques have been taught. Administrative Procedure AP 3851-D “Biological Hazards”, provides additional information regarding hygienic techniques.
- 2.3 Bluewater District School Board also recognizes that there are some students enrolled in schools within the board that may be identified as having severe allergies to animals (AP 6804-D “Anaphylaxis (Life-Threatening Allergic Reaction)”). Authorization is therefore given to the principal to work with staff, parents, the community and the students at the school to reasonably reduce the risk as much as possible within the context of a school environment.
- 2.4 Any animal present in a school classroom will be treated humanely and will be cared for in a manner that demonstrates respect for living things.
- 2.5 Schools that offer programs that include animal husbandry courses will follow the Ontario Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (OSPCA) Guidelines.