



Keeping Chickens Policy



Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand the information in this policy please contact the school on 9687 1535

PURPOSE

To outline Footscray West Primary School's (FWPS) policy and procedures in the keeping and caring for chickens at the school.

SCOPE

This policy applies to all members of the school community involved in the care of chickens at FWPS and aims to ensure that:

- the school complies with legislation, and codes for the responsible care of pets.
- the policy outlines best practice for: daily, weekly, weekend and holiday care of the chickens.
- There are guidelines for the safe and hygienic collection, storage and distribution of eggs.

POLICY

The introduction of chickens into the school will support the Orchard to Plate program. As such the overall responsibility for overseeing the care of the chickens will be that of the person in charge of that program.

FWPS will only keep hens at the school and provide appropriate shelter, caging and ongoing care

Handling Practices

- Only those involved in the care of the chickens are permitted to handle the chickens. Students do not have access to the orchard without a supervising adult during recess and lunchtime.

PROCEDURE

Responsible care of chickens

Daily tasks:

Mornings

- let chickens out of coop
- check and refill food and water
- collect eggs and label with date before storing in labeled carton in staffroom fridge

Afternoons

- return chickens to coop and secure small door
- check and refill food and water

Weekly - each Friday afternoon.

- refill food container
- wash and refill water tub
- sweep out and replace lucerne
- compost old lucerne onto the garden fruit trees in the orchard
- ensure chickens are locked securely in coop

Weekends

- Chickens are kept safely in coop all weekends with adequate food and water.

School Holidays

- A volunteer roster will be developed outlining the care of the chickens over the term breaks and holiday periods.

Safe and hygienic egg handling

- Eggs are collected daily.
 - Persons collecting eggs wash their hands before and after handling them
 - Eggs are wiped down with a clean, dry, abrasive cloth
 - The date of collection is written on the eggs and they are placed in the Dingo kitchen fridge in the allocated carton
 - The best before date (35 days after the oldest eggs date) is then noted on the carton.

REFERENCE

<https://fuse.education.vic.gov.au/Resource/LandingPage?ObjectId=bd21d0fa-202a-4e04-8866-0636f48e91cf&SearchScope=All>

POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Policy last reviewed	October 2021
Consultation	Staff and policy and planning sub committee of school council
Approved by	Principal and ratified by school council
Next scheduled review date	2022

