

ANIMALS IN CLASSROOMS

The Wells-Ogunquit Community School District School Committee believes that animals in schools and/or classrooms should be for instructional purposes only. Neither staff nor students shall bring their own household pets into District schools except for instructional purposes.

The building principal shall approve all animals that are brought into the schools and/or classrooms for instructional purposes. Animals shall be housed in suitable, sanitary, self-contained enclosures appropriate to the size of the animal. Teachers will be responsible for ensuring enclosures are kept in a sanitary condition. Animals shall not be allowed to roam freely in the school or on school property. Animals shall not be left in schools during non-school/vacation periods. No poisonous animals shall be brought into the schools.

Prior to introducing any animals into the classrooms, teachers shall assure that:

- ⇒ parents are notified in advance,
- ⇒ students and school personnel are not allergic to their presence,
- ⇒ the animals will present no physical danger to students and
- ⇒ students will be instructed in the proper care and handling of the animal.

Animals trained, or being trained, to assist persons who are physically impaired shall have access to District property and District-provided transportation when being used for that purpose. District staff or students wishing to bring animals to school for approved training programs, e.g., guide dogs, shall secure permission from the building principal.