

Pet Hygiene Procedures

Do

- ✓ Ensure animals have been declared healthy by a vet and have received all relevant vaccinations before they are brought into the childcare setting/home
- ✓ Ensure that if an animal becomes ill, prompt diagnosis and treatment by a vet is obtained
- ✓ Ensure that animals are provided with suitable housing and food, are regularly exercised, groomed and examined for signs of illness or injury
- ✗ Treat cats and dogs for worms and fleas regularly and trim claws to reduce the risk of scratches
- ✓ Ensure that everyone washes their hands after they have touched animals or their equipment
- ✓ Clean pet living quarters and items such as cat litter trays daily
- ✓ Keep animal feeding areas clean. Animals should have their own feeding dishes that are washed separately from other dishes and utensils, using a hygienic cleaner or disinfectant
- ✓ Keep pet food separate from food for human consumption
- ✗ Remove cat and dog food that has not been consumed by the animal within 20 minutes of it being given to them, or cover the feeding receptacles
- ✓ Discourage children from 'kissing' pets and allowing animals to lick their faces
- ✓ Have a member of staff responsible for the care of the animals.

Don't

- ✗ Allow animals to foul in children's play areas
- ✗ House or feed pets in the kitchen. If animals touch food preparation areas, make sure all surfaces are decontaminated before preparing food
- ✗ Clean pet cages and tanks in the kitchen sink
- ✗ ✗ Allow children access to cat litter trays
- ✗ Permit children to play with animals without supervision.

Mind the Germs! Welsh Assembly Government, 2006.

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