

MANAGEMENT SUPPORT SERVICES

Animals in District Facilities

Principals and site administrators/supervisors shall consider the following when evaluating proposals to have animals in District facilities:

1. The presence of the animal does not impose a direct threat to the health and safety of others.
2. Only certain fish, certain mammals, and certain snakes, reptiles, and amphibians may be kept as classroom pets.
3. Dogs and cats, and small mammals bred in captivity that are kept as household pets, may be brought to school for short visits, i.e., show and tell, by arrangement with the teacher and principal.
4. Animals obtained from approved suppliers and kept as part of approved science curriculum with the permission of the principal are allowed.
5. The following may not be brought to school, even for brief periods, except by special arrangement with the principal, and only then when brought by a professional handler: animals bred in the wild, birds, piranhas or venomous fish, venomous insects, most snakes, reptiles, and amphibians.
6. Plans for keeping animals at school shall include provisions for feeding, cleaning, and care during weekends and vacation periods, and shall describe the educational benefit to be delivered.
7. Animals kept in classrooms, whether as pets or part of the curriculum, must be caged. Animals may be let out of cages on appropriate occasions and with appropriate precautions.
8. Service dogs in a certified and insured training program may be allowed in a classroom upon approval by the school principal and the director of operations on a case-by-case basis. The principal, in conjunction with the director of operations, will review and verify the certification and training of the animal and its volunteer handler prior to allowing classroom visitation. The school principal, in conjunction with the director of operations, will approve the final plan.
 - a. The volunteer handler assumes responsibility including, but not limited to the feeding, cleaning, and care.
 - b. Damages are the responsibility of the volunteer handler. Handler must have liability insurance coverage of no less than a million dollars. Any health or safety concerns of a student(s), parent/guardian, or staff would take priority over the presence of the dog-in-training at school.

See Attachment A to this procedure for a list of allowed and prohibited animals.

Approved classroom pets, which may be a source of allergens affecting students or staff, which are disruptive, or pose health or safety risks must be removed at the direction of the principal.

Once classroom pets are removed from a building in response to allergy or other health/safety concerns, they may be reintroduced at the risk that the building budget may be charged for the cost of abating problems that recur.

Animals may not be transported in District vehicles except as authorized by the superintendent/designee.

A service animal may accompany a person with a disability in District facilities and vehicles and at District activities. Working dogs in a law enforcement capacity may be present in schools.

Approved: November 9, 2004
Revised: February 4, 2015

Central Kitsap School District

ATTACHMENT A

ANIMALS PROHIBITED:

Animals in this category may only be brought in by special arrangement for an assembly or presentation as approved by the principal and only when under the care of a professional handler.

Small Animals:

Raccoons, baby raccoons
Squirrels
Bats
Wild rodents
Aggressive rabbits

Snakes, Reptiles & Amphibians:

Large pythons
Ball pythons
Frogs (wild)
Turtles
Caymans (small)
Alligators

Birds:

All raptors, owls, other birds of prey
All hook-billed birds, for example, Parrots,
Parakeets, Macaws, Cockatiels
Baby chicks, chickens
Turkeys
Ducks
Any wild or injured birds

Fish:

Dangerous fish such as piranhas, and those with venom

Insects:

Bees
Centipedes
Spiders

ANIMALS ALLOWED IN THE CLASSROOM
(must be bred in captivity):

Small Animals:

Guinea pigs
Hamsters
Rabbits (hand-raised)
Mice
Rats

Snakes, Reptiles & Amphibians:

Leopard gecko
Inland bearded dragon
Corn snake
Boa constrictor (under 8 ft. in length)
Tree frog
Argentine horned frog

Fish:

Most fish are allowed

ANIMALS ALLOWED FOR SHORT VISITS

(for example, show and tell):

Dogs, cats and pets listed above are allowed for short visits by prior arrangement with the classroom teacher and the principal, or site administrator/supervisor.

Insured ADA guide dogs in training may also be allowed for the purpose of habituation.