

ST PAUL'S COLLEGE

WALLA WALLA, NSW



A Co-educational Christian Day and Boarding School

Animal Welfare Policy

Policy Statement

St Paul's College recognizes the role animals play both in education and farming activities of the College. Subsequently, the College is committed to ensuring the safety and welfare of all animals engaged by the College for the purpose of education & farming. The College will also ensure that all animals owned by the College will be provided with suitable conditions and that appropriate management practices, based on industry standards and legislation, will be implemented to ensure the welfare of all animals.

The scope of the policy applies to live non-human vertebrate species ie. fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds and mammals.

Rationale

The staff at St Paul's are acutely aware of their duty of care to each other, our students, and our livestock – horses, sheep, alpacas, cattle, & chickens. We are mindful that we should at all times be respectful to the animals that we use in our curriculum & educative processes. This commitment to animal welfare is borne out of our Christian ethos, as well as professional & legislative responsibilities.

St Paul's is also committed to the five 'freedoms' of animal care & welfare:

- 1 *freedom from thirst & hunger*
- 2 *freedom from discomfort*
- 3 *freedom from pain, injury & disease*
- 4 *freedom to express normal behavior*
- 5 *and, freedom from fear and distress*

Principles

The College is committed to ensuring all processes and procedures in managing animals are based on best practice as evidenced in the farming, education, & equine sectors.

Our accepted rules for action include:

- reflecting the Christian values of care and respect for animals
- ensuring compliance with NSW Schools Animal Care & Ethics Committee (SACEC)
- meeting the standards of industry and professional practice
- treating all animals humanely
- reporting any concerns about animal welfare in a timely manner
- appointing an Animal Welfare Liaison Officer (AWLO)
- undertaking a risk assessment when planning to work with animals during College activities
- ensuring that students who engage in any activity using animals are appropriately informed on the acceptable principles pertaining to animal welfare
- responding to the local contexts, both onsite and offsite; and
- embracing training and development in managing animals

Responsibilities

1. College Board – to approve this Animal Welfare Policy
2. Principal – to oversee the implementation of this policy
3. Staff – relevant staff working with animals to implement this policy

Approved by the College Board:

Review date: