

Southwest Vermont Regional Technical School District	Humane Handling and Care of Animals in Schools	Policy # 6160C
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It is the policy of the Southwest Vermont Regional Technical School District to permit live animal in the classroom under appropriate conditions. The additional purposes of this policy is to acknowledge the educational value of animals, provide guidelines for keeping and the humane handling of animals on school property and to promote safety for faculty and students when animals are brought into the classroom. Other than service animals, live animals in the classroom must provide educational value to the classroom.

A. The Director or his/her designee must be consulted and give approval prior to the inclusion of a live animal in the classroom. The use of animals in the classroom is to be permitted subject to administrative regulations concerning handling, care and responsibility. The humane care of the animal(s), including weekends, vacations, and holidays, is the responsibility of the classroom instructor.

B. Wild and domestic animals, wolf-hybrids, farm animals and poisonous animals (including spiders, venomous insects and snakes), reptiles and lizards may be used for their educational value as long as they are safely contained and handled by persons knowledgeable in their care.

C. Guide, hearing, other service dogs or law enforcement dogs may be allowed in school or on school grounds with proof of current rabies vaccination. Service animals are the responsibility of the handler.

D. Certain conditions require special review and approval prior to being allowed in the school environment.

1. Health Risks

Where the animal constitutes a health risk or a student or staff member suffers from an allergy that is aggravated by the presence of that animal, the animal may not be allowed in the classroom.

2. Zoonotic Diseases

Animals susceptible to rabies or other zoonotic diseases (those which can be transmitted from animals to people) must be shown to be vaccinated or proven to have sufficient disease free history to be deemed healthy.

	Date Warned	Date Adopted	Date Reviewed
Southwest Vermont Regional Technical School District	9/21/15	10/19/15	8/17/15