

Cottesbrooke Infant School Policy for wild animals in School.

At Cottesbrooke Infant School we offer the children a broad and balanced curriculum. We try to make this as interesting as possible and from time to time we have outside visitors into school to talk to the children and enhance the curriculum. Sometimes these visitors bring wild animals into school to show the children. When this is the case, the following guidelines will be followed:

- The Headteacher will always be informed of any such visits and only reputable people who have been recommended or who are approved by the LEA will be allowed into school.
- Parents will be notified in advance of any such visits.
- The animals will be kept in secure cages and left in a safe place, away from the children - probably the hall storeroom- until they are required.
- The animals will only be brought out of their cages under strict supervision.
- The children will only be allowed to touch the animals if it is safe to do so, if they have been instructed how to do so correctly and if they wish to. **No child will be forced to look at or touch an animal that they don't want to.**
- Staff will ensure that all children wash their hands thoroughly after touching an animal.
- In the unlikely event of a child being scratched, bitten or harmed in any way by an animal, medical advice will be sought. Initially the trained first aider will examine the injury, clean it and decide whether further treatment is needed. The parents will be notified immediately if the injury is serious, or at the end of the day.