Planning A Project Involving Animals?

Before any animal can be used in research or teaching, ethics approval is required.

The good news is that the process is easy for both teachers and students.

Do I need approval?

Under the Animal Welfare Act 1999, any project or teaching that might affect an animal's normal physiology, behaviour or anatomy requires ethics approval.

Examples of projects requiring approval are:

- how mud crabs respond to changes in their environment.
- how dogs react to different music, foods or colours.
- technology projects. (eg. pedometers for cats.)
- animals running in a maze.



Who approves projects?

The Schools' Animal Ethics Committee (the Committee) is available to schools, home schools and early childhood centres to consider any proposed projects that involve animals.

2



How do I get approval?

Before teachers or students start their project a completed application form must be submitted to the Committee for approval.

Go to the website (details below) to find the student or teacher application forms and details of meeting dates.

The Committee aims to make the process as easy and as educational as possible, while considering the welfare needs of animals. Once all the information needed for approval has been collected, applications are approved and you can start your project.

Is this important?

Yes. Approval is a requirement under the Animal Welfare Act. The approval process is designed to be simple, and to promote learning and the importance of animal welfare.

Science fairs will not accept projects that do not have approval from the Animal Ethics Committee.



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Visit our website or email us for more information about meeting dates or the animal ethics approval process.

web nzase.org.nz/about/animal-ethics

email animalethicscommittee@nzase.org.nz