

# Pets

**Work safely & avoid injuries by following the points below for every task**

- Before bringing any pet into the nursery, ensure that it has been sourced from a reputable supplier, is healthy and has received all relevant vaccinations. Where appropriate, a named vet should be detailed to contact.
- Ensure that colleagues and parents / guardians are advised that the pet is / will be kept in the nursery so that precautions can be taken should anyone be known to have an allergic reaction.
- Ensure that the pet is provided with suitable and safe housing / run, appropriate food, food / water containers and clean bedding / substrate. If further advice is needed, please refer to RSPCA guidelines.
- Ensure that the housing is sited appropriately to avoid the pet becoming stressed and that males / females are separated (if not neutered). Most snails are hermaphrodites, so any 2 snails may reproduce!
- Ensure that pet housing is cleaned and disinfected at appropriate intervals and that colleagues wear suitable PPE when removing soiled bedding etc.



- Introduce a suitable hand washing regime for colleagues and children both before and after coming into contact with the pets and their bedding etc. (Please note that snails can potentially carry Salmonella although if sourced correctly, the chance of this is very rare).
- Before introducing a pet, ensure that the children are supervised and understand the need to act appropriately. E.g. be gentle and calm so the pet is not frightened and does not bite or scratch.
- Contact the Health & Safety Team, if you are considering a pet other than a rabbit, guinea pig, hamster, gerbil, chickens, snail, fish or worms.

	2017	2018	2019	2020
Colleague				
Trained by				