



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
REGION IV-A CALABARZON



5 September 2025

Regional Memorandum
No. 668 s. 2025

**PREVENTIVE MEASURES AGAINST STRAY DOGS IN
SCHOOLS TO AVOID RABIES RISKS**

To **Schools Division Superintendents**
All others concerned

1. Ensuring the safety and protection of learners and personnel is a priority of the Department of Education (DepEd). Reports of stray dogs entering school premises pose risks of dog bites and possible rabies transmission, a fatal but preventable disease.
2. This Office, through the Education Support Services Division, issues a memorandum complementary to Regional Memorandum No. 305, s. 2025¹, and OM-OUOPS-2025-08-01873, Section 2 – Strict Pet Management within School Premises, for implementation in schools to uphold a safe learning environment for learners.
3. In addition, the following legal bases strongly support the adherence of all schools to zero stray dogs in schools.
 - a) Republic Act No. 9482 (Anti-Rabies Act of 2007) – mandates the control, prevention, and eradication of rabies through responsible pet ownership, mass vaccination, and the prevention of stray animals roaming in public places.
 - b) DepEd Order No. 40, s. 2012 (Child Protection Policy) – directs schools to safeguard learners from all forms of abuse, injury, and threats to safety.
 - c) DepEd Order No. 21, s. 2023 (Brigada Eskwela Implementing Guidelines) – underscores the importance of ensuring safe and secure learning environments.

¹ Advisory on Rabies Prevention and Control in Schools




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- d) Occupational Safety and Health Standards (RA 11058) – requires institutions, including schools, to maintain safe and healthful workplaces.
4. For administrative, physical, health, and safety measures, and community engagements, the following recommendations are given, though, the schools could still come up with more strategic measures based on their distinct and localized situations.
 - a) Schools shall strictly implement a No Stray Animals Policy within school premises.
 - b) School Heads shall coordinate with the Barangay, City/Municipal Veterinary Office, and Animal Control Unit for regular stray dog impounding and vaccination programs.
 - c) Schools shall report to the Local Rabies Prevention and Eradication Council (LRPEC) any sightings of aggressive or rabid animals.
 - d) Ensure school perimeter fencing and gates are secured to prevent animal entry.
 - e) Strengthen waste management practices by covering trash bins and avoiding exposed food scraps.
 - f) If the community is feeding stray animals, schools shall coordinate with local stakeholders to ensure feeding areas are not close to school premises.
 - g) Conduct information campaigns for learners, teachers, and parents on avoiding contact or provocation of stray dogs, proper first aid in case of dog bites, and reporting procedures.
 - h) All school personnel shall be oriented on Emergency Bite Protocols: wash wound with soap and water for at least 15 minutes, report incident to School Head and parent/guardian,
 - i) The Parent-Teacher Association (PTA) in partnership with NGOs may assist in resource mobilization for perimeter improvement and rabies awareness programs.
 5. For monitoring and compliance, School Heads shall submit a brief report on actions in the implementation of these measures to the Division Offices, through medical officers and DRRM focal people, which in turn will be submitted to the Education Support Services Division (ESSD) on or before September 30, 2025, at this link: <https://forms.gle/9GqLdJkLQLe2x1gh6>.
 6. For further inquiries, contact Pearl Oliveth S. Intia, MD, Medical Officer IV, or Mr. Wilbert Ulpindo, PDO II, of Education Support Services Division at essd.calabarzon@deped.gov.ph.
 7. Immediate dissemination and compliance with this Memorandum is highly expected.


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