

# Scottish SPCA Animal WISE Partnership Pack

Discover how we support  
**Primary Schools** across Scotland



Forming partnerships that encourage all to

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03000 999 999  
scottishspca.org

Scottish Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals | Scottish Charity No. SC 006467



**ANIMAL WISE**®  
SCOTTISH SPCA



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# Welcome to Scottish SPCA Animal WISE!

For many years, the Scottish SPCA has been delivering FREE workshops in primary schools across Scotland, and as educational strategies have changed, we are keen to do even more to support and inspire the next generation.

We want to support every school in Scotland as a key partner, and not just through delivery of one-off annual workshops. We want to support children's health and wellbeing; enhance their skills when it comes to literacy and numeracy; offer innovative ways to engage with STEM and inspire future career pathways.

**By working together, we believe we can support schools in Scotland to nurture empathy, compassion and a greater sense of appreciation for animal welfare in Scotland.**





# How can primary schools get involved?

Teachers can sign up their school or class by contacting our Education team on **03000 999 999** or by emailing **education@scottishspca.org**.

There are many benefits to be gained from developing a partnership with the Scottish SPCA.

## Benefits

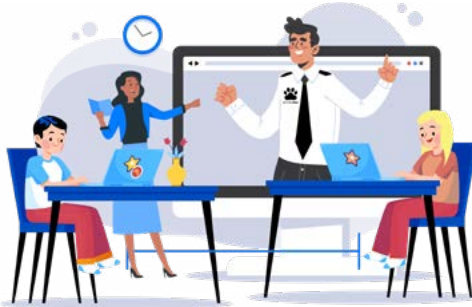
Help support a Compassionate and Connected Classroom through discovering human-animal interactions and identifying how to protect and support the wellbeing of both.

Participation in our brand new e-learning activities throughout the year.

A yearly visit from our education team who will deliver fun, informative, interactive and engaging workshops.

We will help you to achieve many of the Curriculum of Excellence outcomes and help children develop vital skills.

Inspire a desire for positive change and support local community spirit.



Advice and one-to-one support if a child is showing behaviours towards animals that are a cause of concern through our specialised Animal Guardians programme.

Support positive career pathways.

Share partnership experiences on the Scottish SPCA's various media platforms and showcase the school's great achievements with us and inspire others.

Meet some of the animals in the Scottish SPCA's care by taking part in virtual tours.

Generate enthusiasm and motivation for learning.

Opportunities to take part in webinars, with some specific to teachers and others suitable for pupils.

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** All our resources and workshops are **FREE** and, as Scotland's leading animal welfare charity, we are always available every day of the year for support and advice.

## Introducing Martha and Gibson

**Animal WISE** features two new mascots; **Martha** our Scottish SPCA inspector and **Gibson**, one of our rescue dogs.

Martha and Gibson have already featured in our Adventure Tails resource packs (which you can find online, check out the link below!) and will continue appearing in exciting new projects such as e-learning and in the near future a book series. This series will help build children's vocabulary whilst also uniquely connecting animal welfare with key milestones within the child's life.

Martha and Gibson are effective when used as part of our learning strategy in engaging a young audience and making them more comfortable and receptive to what they are learning.



Download our Adventure Tails packs on our website:  
[scottishspca.org/education-resources](https://scottishspca.org/education-resources)

# FREE Workshops and Resources

## Primary 1 – 3

For our youngest minds, we supply the class teacher with resources so they can deliver an interactive and fun teacher led workshop where pupils will learn all about a specific animal, their needs, behaviours and how they should be correctly handled and looked after. Our Happy Hamsters programme has already proven to be very popular. There is lots to learn before welcoming even a small animal into your family and all too frequently these pets aren't cared for appropriately.

Alongside this teacher led workshop, we also offer a short chat for our younger audience from one of our education team which usually lasts around 20-30 minutes and also allows time for any questions.



## Primary 4 – 7

We have taken a unique approach in teaching animal welfare in the classroom which links perfectly with STEM.



Through our partnership with RoboWunderkind we now use robotics as a way of engaging children and creating that understanding of animal behavior, reactions and emotions. We have four animal robot mascots: **Caitlyn** the chicken, **Campbell** the cat, **Oscar** the owl and **Rhu** the rabbit.

Children are encouraged to think about how animals have amazing skills to help them survive and how the environment they live in can affect the way they behave and their wellbeing. We want to educate on the importance of understanding an animal's needs, taking proper care of them and how to identify if an animal is in need of help. Through the use of **coding** we inspire critical thinking skills on how to determine an animal's reaction and emotional state and the value of treating animals with compassion.

Alongside the robotics we use game based activities to expand children's knowledge on the vast array of animals and habitats within Scotland incorporating pets, farm animals and wildlife.

Workshops are booked in one hour slots and this includes time for a short video and any questions the pupils may have.





## Animal Adventures

**BRAND  
NEW FOR  
2021!**

2021 welcomes an exciting new addition to our AnimalWISE programme, Animal Adventures!

If you have a class full of budding outdoor explorers, this workshop will get them up out of the classroom and on an adventure as an Animal Rescue Officer to seek out the animals in need hidden around the playground. Using an interactive tool on touchpads they will discover interesting facts about the animals we have in Scotland and, in groups, investigate ways in which to help our wildlife.

Pupils will also explore the needs and emotions of animals and how they can experience pain, fear and happiness just like us by coding animal robot reactions to real life scenarios, all in the outdoor setting of the school grounds.

Animal Adventures also adheres to ongoing coronavirus restrictions, allowing us to continue to visit and engage with your school without being in the classroom.







**Please be assured we work to strict Covid-19 protocols whilst participating in any outdoor workshop and are happy to send through our risk assessments for your attention.**



## E-learning

We want to make sure that our engagement with pupils is ongoing, which is why we have introduced an exciting new digital platform. You can use this platform to prepare for our upcoming visit and pupils can continue to learn about the Scottish SPCA and animal welfare after their workshop. Our e-learning experience will include a mixture of interactive games, quizzes, videos and virtual tours will ensure fun, engaging learning to expand knowledge on animal welfare.

Our E-learning modules cover a variety of topics which include:

-  Getting to know your Scottish SPCA
-  Animal emotions
-  Animal needs
-  Animals in Scotland
-  Animal habitats
-  How to be Animal WISE



## Animal Guardians

In 2018 we launched our pioneering Animal Guardians programme, which involves us working with children on an individual basis who may be struggling with showing empathy and compassion towards animals. If not addressed, this can lead to either the child or the animal being hurt.

Our fun, game-based sessions are designed to help nurture a child's relationship with animals, encourage that recognition of both human and animal emotions and ultimately ensure they act safely around their own pets or animals they encounter out with the home. We also run events during the school holidays as a way of staying in touch with all those who have been part of the Animal Guardians programme.

A child can be referred on to the **FREE** programme by anyone that is directly involved with their care, for example parents/carers, teachers, social workers etc.

For more information or to make a referral please visit [scottishspca.org/animal-wise](https://scottishspca.org/animal-wise) or email [animalguardians@scottishspca.org](mailto:animalguardians@scottishspca.org).
















# Developing the Young Workforce

We have worked hard to ensure that our authentic learning opportunities for children tie in with many areas of the Curriculum for Excellence. We want children to have positive learning experiences whilst obtaining vital skills to enable them to become successful learners, confident individuals, effective and responsible citizens.

We want to inspire children to build careers within the animal sector and to gain the relevant skills and knowledge to prepare them for the future and the world of work.

Through engaging with all of the activities the Scottish SPCA has to offer, pupils are given the opportunity to develop:

-  Self-awareness.
-  Respect for animals and people.
-  Skills of enquiry and critical thinking and the ability to apply these to animal welfare issues.
-  The ability to communicate in different ways and settings.
-  An appreciation of a wide range of animals found in Scotland and their environment.
-  A sense of injustice and a commitment to tackling it.
-  A desire to protect our environment.
-  Empathy and compassion.
-  Belief that animals are sentient beings.
-  Skills in problem solving.
-  Creativity.
-  Enterprise opportunities.
-  An understanding of the link between animal and human health and wellbeing.

# Our Animal Rescue and Rehoming Centres

We care for around 20,000 animals a year within our nine animal rescue and rehoming centres, which are located throughout Scotland.

## Locations



Animal Helpline – Dunfermline



Rescue & Rehoming Centres:

1. Aberdeenshire
2. Angus, Fife & Tayside
3. Ayrshire & South West Scotland
4. Caithness & Sutherland
5. Dunbartonshire & West Scotland
6. Edinburgh & Lothians
7. Glasgow
8. Highlands & Islands
9. Lanarkshire



National Wildlife Centre



We would love to show children first-hand the amazing work we do and give them the chance to meet all the wonderful animals within our care. Our teams look after everything from furry companions such as cats and dogs to feathered friends and even scaly reptiles. Our experienced animal care staff can show children what it's really like to care for our animals and the hard work it entails.

If you would like to arrange a visit then please call our animal helpline on **03000 999 999** or email [education@scottishspca.org](mailto:education@scottishspca.org).





Alternatively we can also offer **virtual tours** from the comfort of your classroom, giving the children a glance at what goes on inside our centres and a chance to ask questions about particular animals or the work that we do.

Please be aware that our priority at the centres is always animal welfare and any visits will respect the needs of the animals in our care.

## Have fun with us

At the Scottish SPCA we want to involve children as much as possible in thinking and talking about animal welfare whilst also having fun! That is why we regularly run exciting school competitions where individual pupils, classes or whole schools can take part.

Past competitions have included:

-  Photography
-  Logo designing
-  Campaign posters
-  A film competition asking Scotland's classrooms to create short videos highlighting two of our biggest challenges – animals being injured by litter and the illegal puppy farm trade.

To find out more about taking part in our competitions visit: [www.scottishspca.org](http://www.scottishspca.org)



# Great Scottish School Quiz

Look out for a chance to take part in our Great Scottish School Quiz where we invite schools to compete for the title of **Scotland's Animal Champion!** Test your knowledge on our weird and wonderful questions whilst helping to raise funds for the thousands of animals in our care. By bringing fun and learning together it's sure to be one of the most exciting events in the school year!

Watch this space and more details will be released soon on our website [www.scottishspca.org](http://www.scottishspca.org)



## How can you help us?

We encourage children to be kind to animals and support their welfare. A great way to do this is by taking part in some of our exciting fundraising events happening across Scotland, or perhaps your school may wish to choose us as your charity of the year?

Have a look at our fundraising page for lots of ideas on how to get involved in helping to raise money for Scotland's animals and supporting the awesome work our inspectors, rescue officers and animal care assistants do at [www.scottishspca.org/support/fundraise](http://www.scottishspca.org/support/fundraise)

## Sponsor A Space

Did you know your school can help animals by sponsoring a space at your local animal rescue and rehoming centre?

Your sponsorship will help pay for food, care and veterinary treatment for a full year. For more information, visit [scottishspca.org/sponsor](http://scottishspca.org/sponsor)

## Clothes Aid

Why not organise a clothes collection and encourage your school to recycle unwanted or unworn clothes? Don't forget to use #FurrgetYourOldClothes on social media.

For more information and to request a Clothes Aid bag, visit [www.scottishspca.org](http://www.scottishspca.org)







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