**Community of practice for the use of animals in high school agriculture.**

Have you recently started teaching agriculture at a school?

Are you interested in participating in a community of practice project?

The Schools Animal Welfare Officer is offering new teachers of agriculture an opportunity to participate in a fully funded mentoring project, titled *Community of practice for the use of animals in high school agriculture.*

This project will develop and document community of practice for animal welfare for a cohort of teachers of agriculture in NSW schools. The practice that will be included will cover an extensive range of activities, responsibilities and issues that all contribute to exemplary practice in animal welfare.

The project will involve four experienced agriculture teachers and a group of up to 25 new agriculture teachers. It will commence with a two day workshop offering different sessions:

- Handling livestock
- Managing the school farm to demonstrate exemplary animal welfare
- Modelling best practice in animal welfare
- Legislative requirements.

The activities of these two days will be documented in video, photography and electronically. This material will then be available to be used to develop online packages for other cohorts of teachers in following years.

The teachers involved in the initial workshop will then maintain their contact and network electronically. The relationships developed in the two days of training will be a basis for further and continued communication between the teachers, helping each other develop best practice and maintain currency and inspiration in their work.

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