**Subject:** Stop Chicken Hatching Programs

**Date:**

Dear ,

It has come to my attention that the activity of ***Chicken Hatching*** is being considered for my child’s classroom. I appreciate that it is a popular and approved activity however I would like to express my objection to it in light of the welfare and ethical issues that it raises.

Raising chicks in a classroom environment places stress on to the animals and a lot of pressure on potentially inexperienced staff. Some welfare issues that have been reported from chicken hatching activities are chick mortality, injured or deformed chicks, rough handling of chicks and the unknown fate of the chicks after conclusion of the program. 50% of hatchlings will be male and roosters are unwanted (and often illegal) in suburban environments. Disposing of animals after the conclusion of the activity disregards these chicks as sentient beings with a capacity to suffer.

I urge you to consider whether this activity is in the best interest of the children as there are many alternatives that don’t involve live animals in schools. This link can provide you with further information on the issue: <https://www.rspcaqld.org.au/blog/kids-and-youth/chicken-hatching-programs>

Yours sincerely,