



RIU 3.6.3 Animal handling elements of competency

Ver 1 15 June 2023

BIRDS

Competency (Essential outcomes)	Performance criteria (The performance needed to demonstrate competency)
1. Observe and interpret basic body language of birds in different situations	<ul style="list-style-type: none">1.1 Distinguish a range of bird body language1.2 Recognise body language, including posture, facial features, and vocalisation, indicating a bird is relaxed in its surroundings1.3 Recognise body language, including vocalisation, posture, and facial features, indicating a bird is unsettled or in a state of agitation in its surroundings
2. Identify areas of risk around birds	<ul style="list-style-type: none">2.1 Identify situations and behaviour that commonly lead to incidents and injuries when interacting with birds2.2 Recognise human body language and behaviour to avoid around birds2.3 Identify positive actions and behaviour that handlers can take to minimise risks when interacting with birds
3. Describe indications of health and variations to normal health and behaviour in birds	<ul style="list-style-type: none">3.1 Describe normal health and behaviour of birds in terms of the signs (Range - movement, physical appearance, posture, appetite, general demeanour, social interaction)
4. Prepare to handle birds	<ul style="list-style-type: none">4.1 Confirm work plan with supervisor4.2 Identify, prepare, and maintain bird handling areas, equipment, gates, and access routes4.3 Recognise hazards in the workplace and report safety concerns4.4 Select and correctly fit personal protective equipment (PPE)
5. Handle birds	<ul style="list-style-type: none">5.1 Locate and identify birds for handling5.2 Observe and anticipate behavioural characteristics of birds and choose appropriate handling methods



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	5.3	Catch and move birds to designated handling areas using low stress techniques and carry out procedures with due care and in line with current university practice
	5.4	Monitor and anticipate bird behaviour during handling processes to ensure wellbeing of birds and safety of handlers
6. Complete bird handling procedure	6.1	Confirm bird release plan with supervisor as required
	6.2	Ensure adequate clean water and feed at destination as required
	6.3	Prepare housing routes for bird departure
	6.4	Move bird to designated areas safely and with minimal stress
	6.5	Clean and maintain handling areas and equipment and store surplus materials
	6.6	Report handling area maintenance requirements and equipment faults or malfunctions
	6.7	Record and report relevant information