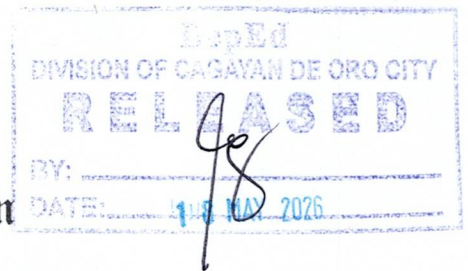




Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
REGION X
DIVISION OF CAGAYAN DE ORO CITY



Office of the Schools Division Superintendent

May 15, 2026

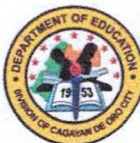
DIVISION MEMORANDUM
No. 462, s.2026

To:

Asst. School Division Superintendent
Chiefs, CID and SGOD
All Public School District Supervisors
All Elementary and Secondary School Heads
Teaching and Non-Teaching Personnel
School Health and Nutrition Section Personnel
This Division

**REITERATION ON ADVISORY OF RABIES PREVENTION AND
CONTROL IN SCHOOLS**

1. Pursuant to Department Memorandum OM-OUOPS-2025-08-01873, Section 2 - Strict Pet Management within School Premises dated March 10, 2025, from Malcolm S. Garma, Assistant Secretary, Officer-in-Charge, Office of the Undersecretary for Operations titled "Advisory on Rabies Prevention and Control in School", the field is hereby directed to implement strict measures to ensure safety and protection of learners and personnel against dog bites and possible rabies transmission.
2. The following legal bases mandate the adherence of all schools to Zero Stray Dogs Policy within school premises:
 - 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.



Address: Fr. William F. Masterson Ave., Upper Balulang, Cagayan de Oro City
Telephone: (088) 855-0044, (088) 855-0047, (088) 328-2142
Email Address: cagayandeoro.city@deped.gov.ph
Website: <https://depedcdo.net/>

Doc. Ref. Code		Rev	
Effectivity		Page	1 of 2



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
REGION X
DIVISION OF CAGAYAN DE ORO CITY

Office of the Schools Division Superintendent

- d. Republic Act No. 11058 (Occupational Safety and Health Standards) -requires institutions including schools to maintain safe and healthful workplace.
3. Enclosed herewith is a copy of the said official communication for reference and guidance.
4. Immediate dissemination and compliance to this memorandum is desired.

ROY ANGELO E. GAZO
Schools Division Superintendent

Encl.: As stated
Ref.: As stated
To be indicated in the Perpetual Index
Under the following subjects:

Health and Safety Protocol Rabies Prevention and Control

DM-153-SGOD-SHN-ELS/ Reiteration On Advisory Of Rabies Prevention And Control In School

May 15, 2026



Address: Fr. William F. Masterson Ave., Upper Balulang, Cagayan de Oro City
Telephone: (088) 855-0044, (088) 855-0047, (088) 328-2142
Email Address: cagayandeoro.city@deped.gov.ph
Website: <https://depedcdo.net/>

Doc. Ref. Code		Rev	
Effectivity		Page	2 of 2



Republika ng Pilipinas
Department of Education

OFFICE OF THE UNDERSECRETARY FOR OPERATIONS

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
OFF. 2 OF THE UNDERSECRETARY FOR OPERATIONS
RELEASED
BY: [Signature] TIME: 3:11 PM

MALCOLM S. GARMA
Assistant Secretary, Officer-In-Charge,
Office of the Undersecretary for Operations

MEMORANDUM

OM-OUOPS-2025-01833

**FOR : REGIONAL DIRECTORS
SCHOOLS DIVISION SUPERINTENDENTS
PRINCIPALS/SCHOOL HEADS/TEACHERS-IN-CHARGE
CONCERNED
ALL OTHER CONCERNED**

FROM : MALCOLM S. GARMA
Assistant Secretary, Officer-in-Charge,
Office of the Undersecretary for Operations

**SUBJECT : ADVISORY ON RABIES PREVENTION AND CONTROL IN
SCHOOLS**

DATE : March 10, 2025

To strengthen efforts in protecting learners, school personnel, and the community from the dangers of rabies, the Department of Education (DepEd), through the Bureau of Learner Support Services-School Health Division (BLSS-SHD), issues this advisory outlining necessary measures for rabies prevention and control in schools.

Rabies is a deadly viral infection primarily transmitted through bites or scratches from infected animals, most notably dogs. The Philippines remain one of the high-risk countries for rabies, with cases reported every year. In our ongoing commitment to public health and safety, schools are encouraged to play a proactive role by implementing preventive measures and conducting awareness campaigns.

Signs and Symptoms:

1. Fever and headache
2. Pain or numbness of bite site
3. Delirium and paralysis
4. Muscle spasms
5. Hydrophobia and aerophobia

Recommended Preventive Measures:

1. Education and Awareness Campaigns:

- a) Conduct comprehensive awareness campaigns focused on rabies prevention, transmission, methods of transmission and symptoms identification.



Room 101, Rizal Building, DepEd Complex, Meralco Avenue, Pasig City 1600
Telephone Nos.: (02) 8633-5313; (02) 8631-8492
Email Address: oure@deped.gov.ph | Website: www.deped.gov.ph

Doc. Ref. Code	DM-OUOPS	Rev	01
Effectivity	03.23.23	Page	1 of 4



- b) Integrate rabies awareness topics into health education programs.
- c) Distribute materials, such as posters and leaflets, to educate learners and school personnel.
- d) Educate learners on recognizing rabies symptoms in animals, such as aggressive behavior, excessive drooling, fear of water and bright lights, and difficulty walking.
- e) Encourage learners and school personnel to avoid contact with unfamiliar animals, particularly those showing these symptoms.

2. Strict Pet Management within School Premises:

- a) Prohibit stray animals from entering school grounds. If complete prevention is not feasible, ensure that these animals receive vaccinations.
- b) Advise learners and personnel to avoid contact with unfamiliar or unvaccinated animals.
- c) Coordinate with local government units (LGUs) for animal control measures.

3. Vaccination and Responsible Pet Ownership:

- a) Encourage pet owners, including school staff and learners, to ensure their pets receive annual rabies vaccinations.
- b) Promote responsible pet ownership through school and community partnerships.
- c) Encourage proper pet care, including regular hygiene, proper feeding, and safe sleeping areas.
- d) Emphasize that all pet dogs and cats should be vaccinated annually to prevent the spread of rabies.

Proper First Aid Measures for Animal Bites:

- a) If bitten or scratched by an animal, immediately wash the wound with soap and running water for at least 15 minutes.
- b) Seek immediate medical attention at the nearest Animal Bite & Treatment Center for proper wound management and post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP).
- c) Learners should be encouraged to report any bites or scratches to teachers, parents or school authorities immediately, without fear of reprimand.
- d) For urgent concerns, contact:
 - i. 911 – National Hotline
 - ii. 1555 – DOH Hotline

Strengthening Collaboration with Health and Veterinary Authorities:

- a) Partner with the Department of Health (DOH), Department of Agriculture (DA), and LGUs for rabies vaccination drives.
- b) Participate in World Rabies Day and other related advocacy programs.
- c) Establish referral mechanisms for students and staff requiring rabies post-exposure management.

For further queries regarding this concern, please contact Dr. Maria Corazon C. Dumlao and/or Dr. Mariblanca C.P. Piatos, from the BLSS-SHD at telephone no. (02) 8632-9935 or email at blss.shd@deped.gov.ph.

For wide dissemination and strict compliance.