



Living Eggs*

Chick Re-homing Policy

The welfare of chicks is very important to us both during and at the conclusion of our Programmes. Due to the huge variation in geographical locations of our Nurseries, Schools and Care Homes there are slight variations as to where chicks are re-homed.

When you purchase our chicken-hatching programme, the chicks you hatch belong to you. However as a responsible organisation, part of the service we provide is to be able to re-home your chicks for you if you request us to do so.

If you ask us to re-home your chicks for you, then we must ethically re-home the hens as well as the cockerels. We have many free-range farms and small holdings across the country that rear the chicks in delightful surroundings. However, as farmers often rely on the income made from selling eggs, it is not fair to ask them to take a huge bias of cockerels that provide no income for them (and actually cost them in food) and only give them a handful of hens. The only exception that we can make to this is when the hens are to be kept on your premises, where local authorities will not permit cockerels.

If you have parents or staff who wish to keep the chicks (all of them), then you **MUST** make sure that you are happy that they are going to a good home. You would need to be confident that they have made preparations for keeping the chicks e.g. provision of suitable and safe environment, heat lamp, waterer, food and bedding and that they have been provided with our information on keeping chicks that you will find in your Resource folders. You would also need to consider whether they live somewhere suitable to look after both hens and cockerels? Due to their early morning crowing, cockerels cannot be re-homed in residential areas. The only suitable location for them is a rural area, for example a small holding or farm.

If they are not to be re-homed by us then the chicks and their welfare will remain the responsibility of you and your Nursery/School/Care home. If you have any doubts about the suitability of where they are going, then please request that we re-home them for you. If you have any queries at all regarding this policy, then please contact your local representative.

We want you to enjoy hatching your chicks and caring for them. We all have a responsibility to these chicks to ensure that they continue to thrive when the programme ends. Please help us achieve this.