



## DOG AND PET POLICY

### Introduction

Pets, particularly dogs are an important part of life for many families and are often included in day-to-day activities such as walking children to and from the School or visiting the playing fields when matches are taking place.

Members of staff who are resident on site may also choose to own pets which therefore spend most of their time within the School boundaries. It must be noted however that pets are not allowed in School House.

Whilst the School appreciates the positive attributes and values of pet ownership as an educational experience, it also acknowledges that there may be some members of staff, pupils and visitors to the School for whom contact with some pets can be stressful, frightening or may even pose a risk to health from bites, infections and allergies may be involved.

This policy therefore takes into consideration the needs and expectations of all members of the School community.

The school reserves the right to ask individuals not to bring their pet(s) in to the School.

### Policy and guidelines

#### 1. All Staff and Visitors Bringing Pets Onsite

- a. Staff must request permission from the Assistant Bursar if they intend to bring a pet in to the school during normal operational hours by completing the attached form. If there is any concern that the arrangements for the welfare of the pet may be unsatisfactory this request may be denied. All dogs must have a collar with an identity tag.
- b. Dogs must be kept under close control, i.e. on a lead.
- c. Dogs may not be left unsecured at any time, except in private property.
- d. It is the responsibility of all pet owners to ensure excrement is cleared up and disposed of by bagging and removed from site. It must not be placed in the normal school rubbish bins.

- e. Visiting parents, for example watching football matches may bring dogs into the school. These dogs must be kept on a lead at all times and all excrement must be cleared up and removed from site.
  - f. Pet owners must take proper preventative treatment against worms, fleas, ticks etc.
  - g. Staff should not bring their pets into the school buildings, the dining hall, classrooms or communal areas, including staff common rooms and offices. Some staff and pupils may have allergies or feel uncomfortable in the presence of animals. Hygiene may be compromised by the presence of animals.
  - h. Pets are seen as a distraction when driving a minibus and are not to be carried when driving and/or with passengers.
2. **Hearing dogs and guide dogs** Hearing dogs and guide dogs for the blind are permitted.
3. **Members of the Public** The campus is private property and members of the general public are not permitted to exercise dogs on it. Members of staff should challenge any member of the public exercising dogs and politely ask them to leave.
- a. The school will communicate to parents, through regular electronic newsletters, its concern that pet owners must take care, if they bring animals to school, to ensure these are kept under close control and that they act responsibly and in accordance with the policy and guidelines.
4. **Residents**
- a. The Governors and Headmaster agree that staff may keep pets in the following school houses;
    - i. the Lodges,
    - ii. the Headmaster's house,
    - iii. but not School House.
  - b. Staff must request permission from the Assistant Bursar if they intend to keep a pet on school property, or wish to bring a pet in to the school during normal operational hours, by completing the attached form. If there is any concern that the arrangements for the welfare of the pet may be unsatisfactory, the request may be denied. A list of those to whom permission has been granted will be kept in the Bursary. All dogs and cats must have a collar with an identity tag.
  - c. Staff resident in school property are expected to ensure their pets are house trained and to do all they can to prevent pets from causing damage to school property.

When pets have been in residence, staff are responsible for the professional cleaning of carpets when they leave. If there is an unacceptable degree of damage or staining to the carpets then staff will be required to make a contribution to the replacement of carpets or redecoration of the property when they vacate the property.

- d. Staff in school properties with gardens are asked to ensure excrement is removed and not to rely on the grounds staff to remove it for them.

## PETS AND DOG POLICY

**For completion when a member of staff wishes to keep a pet at or bring a pet to School on a regular basis**

<b>Details of my pet:</b>	
Type	
Description	
Name	
Where the pets will be kept	
Where the pet will be exercised	
<b>I agree to abide by the College policy and guidelines:</b>	
Name:	
Signed:	
Authorised by:	
Assistant Bursar	
Date:	

Author(s):	S A Jackson
Date:	June 2016
Review Frequency:	
Next Review Date:	
References:	•
Linked Policies:	•
Governor:	
Date of Governor Agreement:	