

Dogs at School Policy

St James Senior Boy's School

Aims

- To allow staff, pupils and visitors to bring their dogs onto the school estate when appropriate, while ensuring the safety of all site users.
- To ensure owners bringing dogs onto the school estate are fully aware of their responsibilities.

Scope

- This policy applies to all persons while on the school's estate.
- This policy does not apply to assistance animals. In accordance with the Equality Act, reasonable adjustments will be made to accommodate any assistance animals (guide dogs for the blind, hearing dogs for the deaf, etc).
- The term "school estate" in this policy includes all outdoor areas and buildings within the school grounds.

Legislation

- There is no specific legislation relating to the keeping or bringing of pet animals into the workplace, although the Health and Safety at Work etc. Act does require the employer to ensure the safety, health and welfare, so far as is reasonably practicable, of its personnel and others.

Rules

- Owners are responsible for their dogs at all times. Persons bringing animals onto the school estate may be held liable for any injury to staff, pupils or visitors, or damage caused to the grounds, premises, facilities or furnishings by their dog; therefore appropriate third party insurance cover is recommended.
- Dogs must be kept under the full control and supervision of their owner at all times.
- Dogs should be kept away from areas being used either by the school population, or used by external parties authorised to do so. As a general rule, dogs should be kept approximately 50 metres away from others outside, and on a leash whilst inside.
- Dogs are not allowed in the Refectory, Catering Kitchen, toilets or shower areas at any time.
- Owners must take measures to ensure their dog does not cause an accident or create slip or trip hazards.
- Owners are responsible for cleaning up their dog's waste immediately, and disposing of it in a clean and hygienic fashion. Specific dog-waste bins have been provided.

- Owners must take measures to prevent infections from dogs causing health problems to staff, pupils or visitors
- It is the responsibility of the owner to ensure that any legal requirements in the keeping of animals are met.
- Owners are responsible for the safety and welfare of their dog at all times, including during emergency evacuations. Owners must ensure that their dog does not present a hazard to others during an emergency evacuation.
- All staff have the right to state their objection (e.g. an allergy, phobia or religious grounds) to an animal's presence in the area where they work or have cause to visit on a regular basis.

Failure to comply with this policy may result in the permission to bring a dog onto the school estate being withdrawn.

Policy written by: Branimir Karavala

Reviewed by: Charles Neave

Approved by: Charles Neave, Deputy Head

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