

Stoke Park Primary School

Animals on Site Policy

At Stoke Park Primary School we undertake to comply with all regulations in regard to Safeguarding Duties. We comply with all regulations as set down by the DfE and Health and Safety Codes of Practice.



Our Employers & Public Liability Insurance does not allow for dogs and other animals on site.

This policy is intended to ensure that our children, staff, contractors and visitors are kept safe and secure whilst on-site.

This policy should benefit the users of our school site through:

- A consistent approach from the school and understood by all
- A safe environment
- A reduction in the risk to children, staff and visitors

The Local Governing Body of Stoke Park Primary School supports the following statements in creating a 'dogs and other animals on site' policy for the school:

Stoke Park Primary School is a **No** dogs or other animals School.

No dogs or other animals (other than assistance or Police dogs) are allowed at any time within the buildings or on school site.

Parents, pupils, visitors and staff must not bring dogs or other animals onto the school site at any time or tie them up outside any of the school gates or perimeter fencing unattended.

Dogs or other animals brought onto site for curriculum purposes only must have a written risk assessment completed and insurance in place.

The school grounds must not be used for walking dogs or other animals, even when the school is closed.

There will be regular inspections of the school grounds and any faeces promptly removed.

Any adults bringing a dog or other animal on to the school site will be reminded of the school's policy and asked to take the dog or other animal off site.

We can promote this policy through the school website and reminders in the school newsletters.

Associated risks

Bites. The main risk from dogs and other animals is bites and possible secondary infection that may result from bites.

Various phobias may also be associated with seeing dogs or the possibility of interacting with dogs, more notably relating the dogs fighting on school sites, which is often frightening to many young children and even some adults.

Allergic Reaction. The proteins from the hair, saliva or urine of dogs and other animals may trigger an allergic reaction that attacks the eyes and airways and may result in asthmatic symptoms. Other allergenic reactions may include Atopic Dermatitis, a more common allergy linked to dogs.

Toxicariasis. Dog faeces are associated with a number of transmissible diseases and infections. The most widely known health risk is Toxicariasis which is passed from the parasite Toxocara; a round worm commonly found in dogs and puppies. Toxocara eggs are present in the faeces of infected animals and can remain in soil for several years after faeces have disappeared. Eggs can also cling to the coat of infected animals. Children who swallow these eggs may become ill and, although very rare, serious illness can occur. Ingestion may occur through contact with contaminated soil or from patting and stroking infected dogs.

General unpleasantness. When children playing in the school grounds fall onto faeces left by dogs or other animals, it is unpleasant for the child concerned and the member of staff who helps to clean up the child.

Adopted by Governors: May 2017

Reviewed and updated: March 2020