

## DOGS IN THE SCHOOL POLICY

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**Rationale:** The purpose of “Dogs in the School” policy is to support the promotion of a safe school environment and to ensure the safety of all whilst attending the school; through both direct and indirect contact with dogs.

**Aims:** To provide for the safety of students, toddlers and parents within the environment of the College.

- Dogs are not permitted within the College grounds at any time unless given approval by the Headmaster. The exception to this policy is for dogs that assist people with disabilities.
- It is not permitted to tether a dog at the College boundary fence.
- Owners must remain with their dogs, outside the College boundaries, at all times.
- Owners are entirely responsible for the dog’s behaviour and for cleaning up any mess left by the dog.
- Any stray dogs in the College grounds will be immediately reported to the ranger for collection.

### References

**Section 14** of the *Companion Animals Act* (1998) prohibits dogs on school grounds except where the principal gives permission.

In general, the use of dogs for educational purposes in schools is limited to the following:

- Working dogs on the school farm
- Visits by organized groups or programs, e.g. Responsible Pet Ownership
- Visits by community owned dogs, e.g. for news items
- Assistance dogs or Service dogs.

Dogs are not generally considered suitable animals for being housed at a school.

[nswschoolanimals.com/dogs/](http://nswschoolanimals.com/dogs/)