

Friday 11th September 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

Re: Dogs on School Grounds

We are writing to remind all families that dogs are not permitted anywhere on the school site, including the playground, at any time.

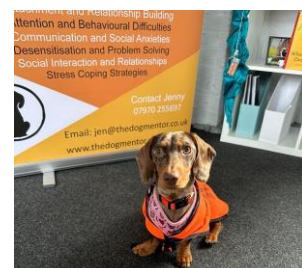
We fully appreciate how much our school community loves pets, and we know that many of your dogs are gentle, affectionate, and wonderful family companions. However, the safeguarding and physical well-being of all our pupils, families, and staff must always remain our highest priority.

During drop-off and pick-up times, the school grounds become very busy, noisy, and crowded. Even the most calm and well trained dog with a lovely temperament can feel overwhelmed or distressed in such an environment. If an animal is accidentally bumped, startled, or hurt, their natural defensive instincts can kick in, creating a risk of an unexpected reaction. Additionally, some children and adults in our community experience severe allergies or genuine fear around dogs.

To ensure our grounds remain a safe, secure, and comfortable space for every child:

- **School Grounds:** Please do not bring dogs past the school gates, whether on a lead or being carried.
- **Perimeter Lines:** If you walk your dog to school, please wait well clear of the entrance gates to allow safe access for families.
- **Unattended Pets:** Please do not tie dogs to the fencing or railings outside of the school gates.

The only dog currently allowed on the school site is Coco, our Dog Mentor, as she has been behaviorally assessed by The Dog Mentor company to be in school and working alongside the children. Her risk assessment is implemented to ensure that the children are kept safe around her- The children know that we don't touch her head, come down to her level and only two hands at a time!



Thank you for your understanding, support, and cooperation in helping us maintain a safe environment for all our pupils.

Yours sincerely,

Jodie Waterton
SENCo