



Sandy Lane Nursery and Forest School
"Nurturing curiosity and inspiring imagination"

Dogs On School Premises Policy

DOCUMENT STATUS

Produced By	Version	Date	Action
Sandy Lane Nursery and Forest School	Draft 1	01.07.12	For ratification by Sandy Lane Nursery and Forest School Premises, Health and Safety Committee
Sandy Lane Nursery and Forest School		01.11.12	Adopted by Premises, Health and Safety Committee

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DOGS ON SCHOOL PREMISES

Sandy Lane Nursery and Forest School does not allow dogs on its premises. This means that dogs may not be brought on any part of the Sandy Lane Campus which is in the overall control of the school.

Under **Section 89 of the Environmental Protection Act 1990**, the governing body must keep land that is under its control and is open to the air free from dog excrement. This means that the school must take all reasonable measures to ensure that the premises and equipment on the premises are safe and do not put the health and safety of pupils at risk while they are on the premises.

As it cannot be guaranteed that dog owners will have full control over their dogs, the school does not allow dogs onto school premises.

Bringing dogs onto the premises would pose a health and safety risk to our children and could be unsettling for many as they arrive and leave school. There are added risks of dogs fouling, dogs biting or showing aggressive, unpredictable behaviour.

The only exception would be dogs for the visually impaired or hearing impaired. Under the **Equality Act 2010**, if the owner has a disability and is using the dog to help them to manage this, then that disabled person will be allowed to bring a guide dog onto the school site. **Guide Dogs for the Blind** provides useful information at <http://www.guidedogs.org.uk/services/guide-dogs/applyforaguidedog/guide-dogs-for-children-and-young-people/>.

Parents will be informed of this policy via:

- The newsletter; and
- Signs outside school.