

OBERON PRIMARY SCHOOL

ANIMALS IN SCHOOL POLICY



Rationale

Students and users of the school need to be safe. Children can feel intimidated or threatened by the presence of animals in the school grounds and animals on school premises present a risk to the health and safety of the school community.

Policy Statement

In order to provide a safe environment for the entire school community, it is the policy of Oberon Primary School to prohibit dogs and other animals on school grounds. Exceptions to this include formally registered assistance dogs and animals that have the approval of the Principal (e.g. dogs brought into the school for special events such as a presentation on pet care).

Implementation

In order to meet the requirements of this policy, and to balance the rights of individuals with the school's duty of care towards the entire school community, Oberon Primary will implement the following:

- Signage will be displayed indicating that dogs are not permitted on the school grounds.
- Access to the school by highly trained assistance dogs and police dogs will be permitted at all times.
- Permission to bring other animals onto the grounds may be sought from the Principal and consent may be given if arrangements have been put in place to ensure the safety of students, staff and visitors.
- When making decisions regarding access of animals, consideration will be given to activities that enhance student learning within the areas of social science and biological science. Safety considerations will be taken into account.
- All parents and community members will be made aware of these school rules and the safety reasons supporting them.

Evaluation

This policy will be reviewed as part of the school's three year review cycle.

This policy was last reviewed by the Oberon Primary School Policy Committee on: 23/08/2019

NEXT REVIEW DATE: August 2022