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**Dogs on site Policy**

In order to safeguard the health and welfare of pupils, staff and visitors to the school, Havannah First School does not allow dogs inside the secure line of the school (beyond the green fence locked and unlocked at drop off and pick up times), with the exception of:

* assistance dogs
* dogs visiting pupils with an educational or therapeutic purpose
* the school dog (see separate risk assessment)

In the cases above where dogs are allowed on the site, this is with Governors’ permission and risk assessments will be undertaken by the school. The school dog has an extensive risk assessment which details how school has made the presence of the dog as safe as possible.

Dogs are not allowed to be carried beyond the secure line, including in the case of small dogs and puppies.

Dogs are allowed in the school car park area and can be tethered to either the fence outside school or to the fence at the top of the car park beyond the furthest zebra crossing. Dog owners must consider the safety of leaving dogs in either area and be confident that the dog is able to be left unattended without being distressed or becoming aggressive due to other dogs, movement, noises or people. Dogs are the responsibility of their owners, even when unattended and on the school site. If dogs display aggressive behaviour or are known to be dangerous, they will not be allowed on any part of the site. Owners are responsible for any damage caused by their dogs.

Dogs must be on a lead at all times and owners will be responsible for cleaning up any dog faeces. Owners are encouraged to toilet dogs off site.

Dogs are not allowed to pass through the gates into play areas (through the secure line of the school).

The headteacher will enforce the policy on a day-to-day basis and has the right to request owners to remove animals from the school grounds.

Parents and carers will be reminded of this policy via newsletters.

Anyone who persistently brings a dog/dogs onto the site in contravention of the governors’ policy will be denied future access except by prior arrangement and may be banned from the school site.

Under powers conferred in the Education Act 1996 [section547] the police and Local Authority can remove anyone refusing to leave the school site and may prosecute anyone who makes a nuisance or creates a disturbance.

**This policy statement will be reviewed every second school year unless specific issues**

**necessitate an earlier review.**

**Autumn 2017, September 2019, April 2022 (Havannah First School)**

**Next Review: April 2024**