

Bundoora Primary School Policy Manual	MANAGEMENT POLICY Dogs on School Grounds	Last ratified by School Council in: August 2017
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If further information is required, please refer to the OHS Guidelines.

1.0 VISION

- 2.1 To provide for the safety of all within the environment of the Bundoora Primary School grounds.
- 2.2 To ensure access to the school grounds and buildings for people who require Service Dogs.

2.0 RATIONALE

2.1 Dogs are an important part of life for many Bundoora Primary School (BPS) families and, as such, are often included in day-to-day activities such as walking children to and from school. While the school appreciates this inclusion, and values pet ownership as an educational experience, it also acknowledges that other families (and individuals) can find contact with dogs stressful or frightening.

Dogs can behave unpredictably when placed in excited and/or crowded environments, particularly if other dogs are present, and this may lead to accidents or injuries.

- 2.2 This policy aims to take into consideration the needs and expectations of all members of the BPS community, and the public, to minimise the risk of accident or injury to people or animals within the school grounds. BPS respects cultural diversity and understands that some members of the community may not wish to be in close proximity to dogs.
- 2.3 This policy aims to strongly support the promotion of a safe school environment and to ensure the safety of all whilst within the school grounds.

3.0 ACTION

- 3.1 Dogs, with the exception of service dogs, are not permitted within the school grounds, during school hours of operation, 7.00am 6.00pm, (including on a leash) unless prior approval is given by the Principal.
- 3.2 Dogs must not be tethered to the school boundary fence. Dogs must not be tied-up and/or left unattended in or around the school grounds at any time.
- 3.3 Bundoora Primary School promotes the *Responsible Pet Ownership Program for Primary Schools* to educate students in the knowledge and understanding needed for responsible pet ownership and animal care.
- 3.4 'No Dogs Allowed' signs will be posted at all BPS entry gates.
- 3.5 This policy will be distributed to all parents/carers, at the time of implementation and once each year, and is available on the school's website.
- 3.6 Any stray dogs found in the school grounds will be immediately reported to the ranger for collection.

4.0 REVIEW

The *Dogs on School Grounds Policy* will be reviewed regularly, as part of the school's policy review process.