

Purpose of the Policy

This policy aims to ensure the safety and wellbeing of all members of the Peregian Beach College community.

Dogs (and other animals) are an important part of life for many at the College and as such are often included in day-to-day activities such as walking children to and from school. The College appreciates this inclusion and values pet ownership as an educational experience. The College also acknowledges other people can find contact with dogs (and other animals) as being stressful or even frightening.

Responsibility:

Principal

Point of Contact:

Work Place Health & Safety Officer

Aims

This policy takes into consideration the needs and expectations of all members of the College community and also aims to minimise the risk of accident or injury to people or animals within the College grounds.

To this end, the policy sets out a Code of Conduct for all families wishing to bring their dog (or other animals) onto the College grounds. Not complying with the Code of Conduct in respect of a dog (or other animal) means that dog (or other animal) is no longer permitted in the College grounds.

Existing council by-laws already cover issues such as dog (or other animal) restraint and the need for owners to pick up their dog's (or other animal's) excrement. For clarity these matters are also covered in this policy.

This Policy also aims to regulate the presence and management of animals on College premises and in areas where College activities are being undertaken. 'College premises' include all areas, buildings and facilities which are accessible by students, staff and/or members of the public.

Code of Conduct

All parents and other carers intending to bring their dogs (or other animal) to school must adhere to this Code of Conduct, which states:

1. All dogs (or other animals) must be on a lead that keeps the dog (or other animal) close to the adult at all times.
2. Dog (or other animal) leads need to be held at all times by **adults only**.
3. **Dogs (or other animals) must remain on the carpark side of the college.** A post will be provided for owners to tie their pet to should they wish to enter the college beyond the carpark.
4. No dogs (or other animals) are allowed inside any school buildings.

5. Parents are responsible for cleaning up any soiling by their dog (or other animal) on school grounds.
6. To prevent cross-infection to other pets etc, only healthy dogs and animals are allowed on College grounds.
7. Dogs and animals are not permitted to lick people or other animals.
8. Dogs (or other animals) are not allowed to drink directly from the school water fountains. Water can be provided from the water fountains using a container you bring for that purpose.
9. When bringing dogs (or other animals) to the school, parents and carers do so with an absolute understanding that their dog (or other animal) has no behavioural issues around other people or other animals, has never displayed any aggression towards children, and that the owner believes their dog (or other animal) is fully trustworthy in a school environment.
10. Dogs (or other animals) are not permitted onto College grounds after school hours without specific permission from the Principal.

The policy clarifies that dogs (or other animals) will not be allowed in classrooms, or the rest of the school building, unless on an explicitly pre-arranged visit.

The policy also makes it clear that bringing dogs (or other animals) to school is a privilege to be enjoyed not a right. The College retains the right for the Principal to direct that a dog (or other animal) is not to be brought onto the College grounds at his/her discretion.

Complaints about a dog's (or other animal's) or its carers' behaviour in breach of the Code of Conduct can be directed to the Principal.

Pets are an important part of our College community. Peregian Beach College is committed to teaching children appropriate behaviour when approaching and interacting with all pets to further minimise the risk of accidents and injury.

Policy Release Details

Date of Policy

January 2023

Approved by

College Board

Disclaimer: The information contained in this policy is to the best of our knowledge and belief correct at the date of publication. However, no warranty or guarantee is or can be given by Peregian Beach College or any member of its staff, and no liability is or can be accepted for any loss or damage resulting from any person relying on or using the information contained in this policy.