



# St Luke's Catholic Primary School

17 Duffy Terrace, Woodvale, WA 6026  
Telephone: 9306 6600 Facsimile: 9306 6617  
Email: [admin@stlukeswoodvale.wa.edu.au](mailto:admin@stlukeswoodvale.wa.edu.au)  
ABN 96 231 181 729

## **RATIONALE**

St Luke's is part of a community where the benefits of pet ownership are valued. The school's primary duty of care is to our students, staff and school community. Some children have a fear of dogs and students need to feel safe whilst on school grounds.

This policy outlines the responsibilities of dog owners and/or handlers within the school grounds, **excluding** dogs specifically trained to enhance or support learning, mobility or disability.

No dogs are allowed on our school grounds. If you see someone with their dog on the grounds could you remind them of this rule, which has been made to ensure the safety of your child.

The Council rangers may be called if a dog is seen on the school grounds. This is a useful link with helpful information for children and dogs promoting safety

[http://raisingchildren.net.au/articles/dogs\\_and\\_children.html](http://raisingchildren.net.au/articles/dogs_and_children.html)

## **AIM**

1. While the school appreciates this inclusion and values pet ownership as an educational experience, it also acknowledges that other children and adults can find contact with dogs stressful.
2. Dogs can behave unpredictably when excited, and this can lead to accidents such as falls and dog bites.
3. This policy aims to take into consideration the needs and expectations of all members of the community and also minimise the risk of accident or injury to people or animals within the school grounds. Please refer to the City of Joondalup website for further information.
4. Existing council by-laws already cover issues such as dangerous dogs, dog restraint and the need for owners to pick up their dog's excrement. For clarity some of these matters are referenced in this policy.
5. Principals and school staff have a duty of care to take reasonable steps to ensure that school grounds are safe for all staff, students and visitors.



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## **IMPLEMENTATION**

- ☒ The School is concerned with the safety of students, parents, staff and visitors at St Luke's Catholic Primary School. It is for the reasons outlined above that Principal has decided that dogs are **not permitted to be on school grounds at all** including school holidays.
- Dogs are not permitted to be inside the school buildings (unless permission is granted by the Principal).
  - Dogs are also not permitted on school grounds during approved events where St Luke's Catholic Primary students will be present e.g. Working Bees, Family Fun Nights, Family events organised by the P&F team, Sports, Christmas Concerts, Parent Teacher Interviews, Open Nights and Family nights.
  - Where community members wish to bring their dog into the school for a particular event prior permission of the Principal is always required.

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## **EVALUATION**

This policy will be reviewed in accordance with the St Luke's Catholic Primary School timeline and if necessary due to changes in regulations or circumstances. This timeline will be over a 3 year review cycle.

## **APPENDICES**

☒ Nil

## **REFERENCES**

☒ DET - School Policy and Advisory Guide:

<http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/principals/spag/Pages/azindex.aspx>  
City of Joondalup Website

[https://www.joondalup.wa.gov.au/wp-](https://www.joondalup.wa.gov.au/wp-content/uploads/2017/10/Dog_Owner_Responsibilities.pdf)

[content/uploads/2017/10/Dog\\_Owner\\_Responsibilities.pdf](https://www.joondalup.wa.gov.au/wp-content/uploads/2017/10/Dog_Owner_Responsibilities.pdf)

<https://www.joondalup.wa.gov.au/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/City-of-Joondalup-Animals-Local-Law-1999-as-amended.pdf>

<http://det.wa.edu.au/curriculumsupport/animalethics/detcms/school-support-programs/animal-ethics/species-specific-information/dogs.en?cat-id=4220801>

<b>This policy was last written:</b>	<b>NOVEMBER , 2020</b>	<b>REVIEW: 2023</b>
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