



Newall Green Primary School

Aiming High To Reach Our Goals

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Dogs on School Grounds Policy

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Amendments	Fines
Related Policies/Guidance	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Safeguarding Policy•
Review	Annually

Approved by: Mrs R. Perry

Date: 08.05.22

Last reviewed on: 27.06.23

Next review due by: June 2024

Introduction

1. All Governing bodies have a responsibility to ensure the safety of children, staff and visitors to the site, **Newall Green Primary School does not allow dogs on the school site** unless they are a guide dog or to educate children within the classroom.
2. The school displays signs bringing to people's attention that dogs are not permitted on the school site.
3. Where dogs are being exercised or routinely brought onto school property this can introduce some potential risks to pupils and staff of physical and/or emotional harm.

Causing a Nuisance or Disturbance on School sites

1. **Schools are private property**, thus persons entering without permission or lawful authority to be there may be treated as trespassers.
2. Section 547 of the Education Act 1996 states:

(1) Any person who without lawful authority is present on premises to which this section applies and causes or permits nuisance or disturbance to the annoyance of persons who lawfully use those premises (whether or not any such persons are present at the time) is guilty of an offence and liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 2 on the standard scale.

(2) This section applies to premises, including playgrounds, playing fields and other premises for outdoor recreation, of the Cherry Tree Trust.
3. Nuisance or disturbance has a wide interpretation, **for example to exercise a dog or allow a dog to foul a playing field is to permit a nuisance** and thus schools could consider taking legal action, or issue a fine, in such cases under Section 547.
4. Under this Act trespassers can be removed by a police officer, head teacher or by the School Governors.
5. Head teachers will use discretion in determining whether they, or other staff, are able to safely challenge / escort a trespasser from the site as school staff should not put themselves at risk.
6. If a parent or other visitor to the school does not conduct themselves properly then the school will write to them. A warning will be issued stating that the conduct was unacceptable **as a dog has been brought onto the school grounds**. Any further occurrence of bringing a dog onto the school ground will result in **a £100 fine being issued** and consistent flouting of the rules will lead to a dog owner being banned from the school premises.