



Policy: 1.1h BGMS No Dog on School Grounds

NO DOG ON SCHOOL GROUNDS

1. Purpose

The purpose of the No Dog on School Grounds Policy is to ensure animals do not cause any harm to persons or damage to School property or pose a health and safety threat to staff, students and/ or visitors to the School.

2. Scope

All community members, including staff, parents, visitors and volunteers.

3. Policy Statement

Blue Gum Montessori School (BGMS) values the important role that pets, dogs in particular, play in our community and the positive impact dogs can have on family life. For many community members, dogs are an important part of the family.

We need to be mindful that children are the priority in a school environment and that some children and even adults are unfamiliar and/or afraid of dogs and other animals. Members of our community may have allergies when in contact with pets and cultural beliefs when interacting with animals, these are some reasons that inform our BGMS No Dog on School Grounds Policy. This includes dogs owned by families, staff and school visitors. This includes bringing dogs to school grounds at drop-off and pickup times as well at school events, for example, Sports Carnivals, Fun Days and the Colour Run.

If staff wish to have a day pass to have a dog on the grounds to link to learning, they are required to seek permission, fill out the necessary ethics and Risk Management forms to be signed off by the School Coordinator and once approved communicate to the wider school community well in advance.

3.1 Guide Dogs

As part of the International Guide Dog Federation IGDF, Guide Dogs WA are accredited to provide a Guide Dog with public access rights. This means Guide Dogs can go anywhere! They are allowed to go anywhere the general public can go and sets them apart from a 'pet'.

3.2 Autism Assistance Dogs

Autism Assistance Dogs also undergo a formal assessment (PAT – Public Access Test) by a qualified Guide Dogs WA Instructor, which gives public access rights to the dog.

Approval and Amendment History	Details	Date
Original Approval Authority and Date	Creation of policy	16/09/2020
Review	Principal	18/08/2023
Review, Amend and Reformat	Spelling and grammatical errors	07/07/2025