



# DOG POLICY

## **Rationale:**

This policy aims to ensure the safety and well-being of all members of the Timbarra P9 College community. Dogs are an important part of life for many Timbarra P9 College families, and as such are often included in day-to-day activities such as walking children to and from school. The school appreciates this inclusion and values pet ownership as an educational experience. The school also acknowledges other people can find contact with dogs stressful, even frightening. Dogs can behave unpredictably when excited, and this can lead to accidents such as falls and dog bites.

## **Aims:**

This policy takes into consideration the needs and expectations of all members of the Timbarra P9 College community, and also aims to minimise the risk of accident or injury to people or animals within the school grounds.

Existing council by-laws already cover issues such as dog restraint and the need for owners to pick up their dog's excrement.

## **Implementation:**

- The School is concerned with the safety of students, parents, staff and visitors at Timbarra P9 College. Therefore dogs are not permitted within the school grounds between 8.45am and 3.45pm unless prior approval is given by the Principal. The exception to this policy is for dogs which assist people with disabilities.
- It is not permitted to tether a dog at the school boundary fence. Dogs cannot be tied-up and/or left unattended at any time.
- Timbarra P9 College 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.

## **Evaluation:**

This policy will be reviewed as part of the school's review cycle

This policy was last ratified by School Council in....	August 2019
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