

ANIMALS AND PET POLICY

WRITTEN BY RACHAEL DUNPHY | DATE: 16/09/2023

As the owner of pets, I have written this policy to share information with parents about how I intend to protect their children from harm when there are pets in the house.

I own the following pets: 2 rabbits - Victor and Willow. Occasionally, I may be required to look after my family's dog. Children will have contact with the pets on a day-to-day basis and will be taught to treat the pets with respect. They will learn how to handle the pets safely under careful and constant supervision.

My rabbits have a disease called Pasteurella Multocida which affects their respiration. They are palliative patients of their vet and often need to be nebulised and take medication. Humans cannot contract the disease from the rabbits unless they have a severely compromised immune system, due to a medical condition, such as AIDS.

Children learn from handling and coming into contact with pets and I will ensure they have a sustained learning experience by planning activities to help the children get to know the pets and how to manage them safely.

Children will be taught to wash their hands thoroughly after handling pets.

Food and medicine for the pets is stored out of sight and reach of the children and they will not be allowed to access the pets when they are eating.

Constant risk assessment will ensure children are safe in the house and garden: for example, I risk assess through the day to ensure pets have not soiled parts of the garden where children play.

Meeting other animals: Children are to be taught that not all animals are friendly. My rule is that they need to be with an adult and to ask before touching animals if they do not already have permission.

If you have any questions about my policy/procedures or would like to make any comments, please ask.

SIGNED

DATED
