



Policy on Dogs on School Grounds

Introduction

This policy was drawn up in consultation with the staff, parents and Board of Management of St. John the Apostle, National School, Knocknacarra in response to the increased risk to the health and safety to children from dogs

Rationale for the Policy

Most of us love dogs and many dogs pose no risk to the safety of our children. Many of you have dogs at home and in the right environment they make excellent family pets. However. In a school environment they can cause problems for children, especially to those not used to dogs. More specifically the following issues were critical in deciding the policy,

- Health and Safety of children and staff
- Specific high risk of bites or being exposed to dog faeces etc
- Large numbers of children being collected at the front of the school
- Lack of staff to manage or control the situation

School Policy re Dogs

The following are the policy guidelines;

- Dogs are not allowed onto school property
- The policy applies to all circumstances/situations
- This policy is effective immediately
- Guide dogs of course are exempted from this policy

Roles and Responsibilities:

The Board of Management requests the full cooperation of the parent(s) and guardians(s) in the implementation of this Policy

Ratification and Implementation:

This policy was ratified at the Board of Management meeting on Tuesday, November 25th, 2014 with immediate effect. This policy will be monitored on an ongoing basis and amendments made as appropriate.