Purpose

- All members of our school community need to be safe. Dogs are a popular pet for students, but require regulation and management when in our school grounds or visiting classrooms.
- To provide a school environment, which is safe for students, which is practical, and balances the rights of individuals with the schools duty of care toward all staff and students.

Implementation

- Dogs are very popular pets, but can be involved in serious incidents when not controlled or can be unpredictable when excited or frightened.
- It is well recognised that young children have underdeveloped peripheral vision and judgement about appropriate ways to deal with dogs, especially unknown ones.
- Kalinda PS strongly discourages the bringing of dogs to school within the immediate vicinity of the school buildings area.
- When unaccompanied dog/s are found wandering within the school grounds Emergency Procedures should be followed and appropriate action taken, such as students to be brought inside.

Exceptions:

- Morning News (show & tell) – parents/teachers must gain prior permission from the Principal, AP or classroom teacher; animals that are brought for such purposes must arrive after 9 am, once class has commenced to avoid concern. All dogs brought in for such purposes must remain on a lead at all times and must not wait near classroom doors/bag areas/wet areas etc. to enable free access to all areas.
- Students are to wash hands after the visit.
- Responsible pet ownership is part of the school curriculum.

Evaluation

This policy will be reviewed as part of the school’s three-year review cycle.

This policy was last ratified by School Council in October, 2005