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Pet Policy

Rationale

Within our house we have always had a love for animals and believe that children can learn a lot from having contact with animals, as it can teach them responsibility and how to interact with them properly.

Procedure

Certain procedures will be followed to ensure the safety of the children and animals;

* Children must be encouraged to treat all animals with respect, learning how to handle them correctly.
* Children must wash their hands after any contact with animals and understand the reasoning behind this.
* Children must be taught that not all animals are child friendly and that they should always check with the animal’s owner before attempting to stroke or handle them.
* Food for the pet must be stored safely away from the children’s reach.
* A high standard of hygiene must be followed, with careful thought given to the placing of the feeding and drink bowls of dogs and cats.  
  The garden must be checked every morning, before the children are permitted outside to play, to ensure that no animal has fouled it.
* The children and animals will be supervised at all times when in each other’s company.

Here at Little Ladybirds we currently have two indoor dogs, Hugo, a Cockalier and Derek, a Cavachon as well as two cats, Eddie and Greg. The dogs are kept within the house and cats are outside during the day and will occasionally wonder the gardens but all the animals in our care are trained well. We know our animals’ body language and have provided them a safe place to be separated from the main rooms of the house if there were to be uncomfortable at all.

**Written By:**

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