Park Ridge Primary School  
Dogs Policy  
May, 2016  

**Rationale**  
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.

**Aim**  
To provide a school environment which is safe for students, which is practical, and balances the rights of individuals with the school’s 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.
- Park Ridge Primary School requests that dogs are not brought into the school grounds within the immediate vicinity of the school buildings area, whether on a leash or not.
- 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, Assistant Principal or classroom teacher; animals that are brought for such purposes must arrive after 8:45am, 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.

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<td>Date Approved:</td>
<td>May 2016</td>
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<tr>
<td>Person Responsible:</td>
<td>Principal / Education Committee</td>
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<td>Date for Review:</td>
<td>May 2019</td>
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