



## Pets Policy

**Reviewed January 2016**

I believe that children can learn a lot from having contact with animals, however certain procedures must be followed to ensure the safety of the children:

- 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 myself and the animal's owner before attempting to stroke or handle them.
- Food for the pet must be stored safely.
- A high standard of hygiene must be followed. No young child will have unsupervised access to the area where food and drink bowls for the dog are placed .
- A safety gate is used to keep the dog separated from the children when needed.
- Children are never left unsupervised with the dog.
- The garden is not used for toileting purposes with the dog.

Childminder: ..... Date: .....