



South Thornlie Primary School
Independent Public School

Ovens Road, THORNIE WA 6108

Ph. 9232 3600

Email. souththornlie.ps@education.wa.edu.au

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Dogs in Schools Program

At South Thornlie Primary School we believe that students can benefit educationally and emotionally, increase their understanding of responsibility and develop empathy and nurturing skills through contact with a dog.

One or more programs involving a dog attending our school will occur from time to time where the school sees the program adequate and beneficial to students. Parents and caregivers will be informed of all required information in relation to such programs prior to the commencement.

The use of a dog for a learning activity at the school when students are in attendance, must meet the following requirements:

- The teachers/trainers will have accessed the Department of Education Use of Animal in Schools policy to ensure that they have met the requirements.
- Approval must be sought from the Principal before using a dog for educational purposes, or bringing it to the school.
- It must be deemed that a dog is necessary for the educational outcomes of the activity.
- The dog must be clean and groomed, including being free of any parasites such as fleas and be wormed.
- All dogs will be assessed for interaction with children, cats and other dogs as well as their general health and nature before being allowed on school grounds.

The full policy is available on our website: souththornlieps.wa.edu.au

Should you wish for your child **not** to participate in any of the Dogs in Schools Programs. Please complete the opt out form below and return to the office as soon as possible.

Yours Sincerely

Megan Barnett
Principal

Dogs in Schools Program – Opt Out Form

I _____ in class _____ **do not give permission** for my child
(Parent/Caregiver Full Name)

_____ to participate in or have contact with any school approved
(Child's Full Name)

dogs for the following reason (please tick):

- Allergies Cultural/Religious Fear of dogs Prefer not to say

I am aware of the Dogs in Schools Program information that has been provided to me and acknowledge that I can access the South Thornlie Primary School Dogs on Schools Policy on the school's website. I also acknowledge that I can withdraw my decision to opt out at any time by contacting the school.

Parent/Caregiver Signature: _____ Date: ____ / ____ / ____