

Assembly

14th February 2022

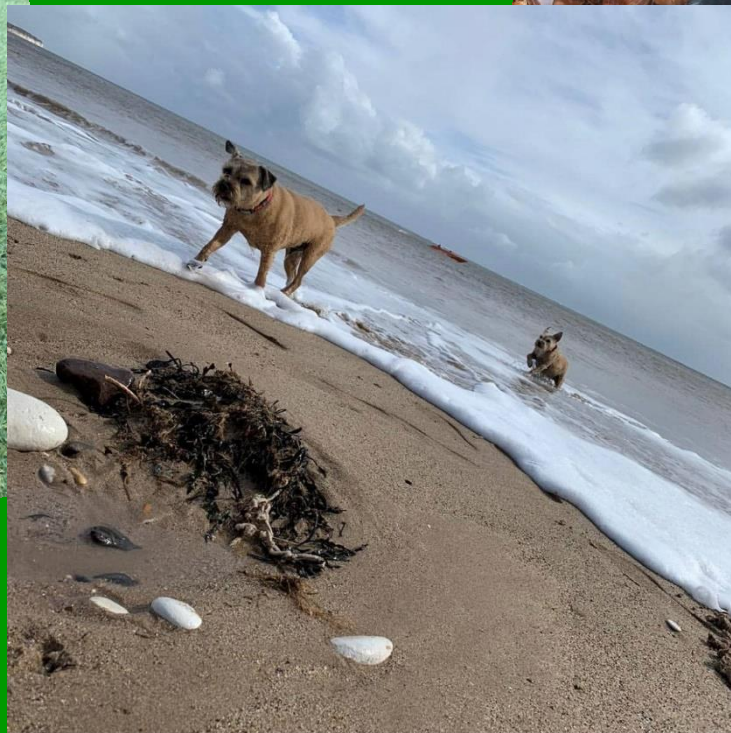


Learning about dogs

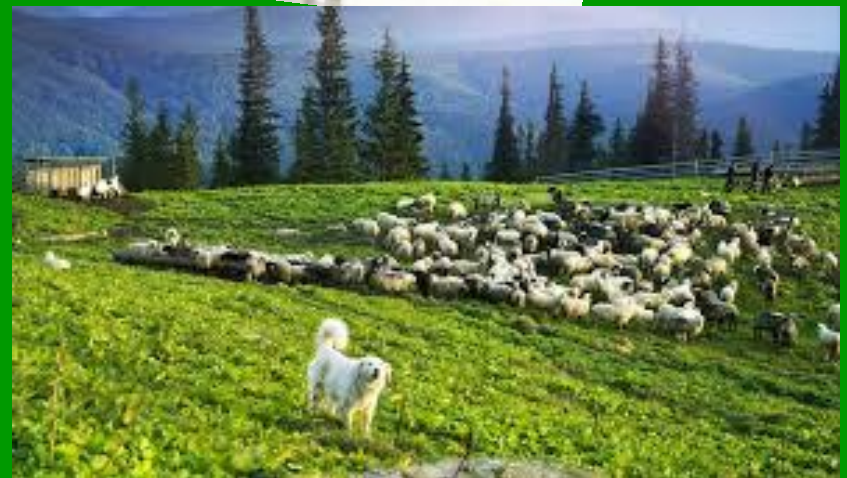
We are learning about how we should behave
and how to keep ourselves safe around dogs

What do we already know
about dogs?

Pets



Working dogs



Staying safe inside...

- **Give dogs a safe space of their own.** Just like us, dogs need their own space to relax. Create a doggy den or a 'dog only zone' where they can go, and leave them alone when they're there.
- **Let dogs have a choice.** Always give dogs the option to move away from any interaction - with children or adults - and not be followed.
- **Do not disturb.** If a dog is eating, or playing happily on their own, give them plenty of space to enjoy their food, chew, or toy without being disturbed.
- **Let sleeping dogs snooze.** Dogs need lots of sleep, so if a dog is resting, leave them alone.

Dog behaviours...

What's normal behaviour for a child, such as running, shouting and energetic play, can be difficult for a dog to cope with. If any dog feels worried, scared or hurt, they may bite in self-defence.

Be sure you know and watch for these common behaviours dogs show us when they're feeling anxious or uncomfortable:

Ears back

Cowering

Licking lips

Yawning

Moving away

Avoiding contact

Growling

Snarling

Remember – it is always good to give dogs space.

Dog safety outdoors...

Let a dog that's out for a walk enjoy doing what they want to do. This is their special time to sniff and explore, so they might just want to do their own thing!

If a dog you don't know approaches you:

- Always seek help from a grown up.
- Stay calm, quiet and still.
- Don't stare, as this can worry dogs. Keep your gaze upwards so you can still keep track of where they are without looking straight at them.
- If you've got something the dog is trying to get, like food, drop it away from you and let them have it
- If a dog jumps up, keep calm. Cross your arms, turn and look away.

How to say hello to a dog...

Be Dog Smart

How to say hello to a dog

It's important to remember that not all dogs will want to be stroked.

- 1** Approach slowly, calmly and quietly from the side of the dog.



- 2** Ask the owner if it is okay to stroke their dog. Wait for the owner to respond.

If the owner says 'no':

Move away calmly and quietly.

If the owner says 'yes':

Stand at the side of the dog calmly and quietly.

Keep your arms by your sides.

Say 'hello' quietly.

Wait for the dog to approach you.



- 3** **If the dog does not approach you:**

Move away calmly and quietly.

If the dog approaches you (and remains there):

Stay at the dog's side.

Stroke them along their side or shoulder.

Stroke slowly and gently in the direction of their fur.



- 4** **If the dog moves away at any point:**

Move away calmly and quietly.



Dog rules at Sitwell Infants...

- **Be calm:** no loud noises, running or chasing games which can worry Alf.
- **Give Alf space:** dogs don't always like hugs and kisses the same way we do.
- **Play fairly:** never tease Alf with toys or food.
- **Leave dogs alone:** when he is eating, sleeping or playing with a toy. Being disturbed can worry him.
- **Keep hands away from Alf's eyes, mouth and ears:** No pulling or poking – it can hurt him.

Dog rules at Sitwell Infants...

Be calm



Give a dog space



Play fairly



Leave a dog alone



Keep your hands away



Remember...

Dogs have feelings and needs and it's important that we respect them and behave kindly and safely around them.



Thinking time...

- How can you be safe around dogs and other animals?
- Remember that animals have feelings just like us so we have to treat them with respect.