



## 4503 PETS & ANIMALS ON CAMPUS POLICY

Policy Type: Administration  
 Applies To: All Staff, Students, Visitors  
 Approved By: LCS Head of School  
 Policy Reviewed: every 2 years  
 Adopted: 05 2022  
 Revisions: 05 2023

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### 1. PURPOSE

Langley Christian School's purpose is to provide education. The school is also a major employer. In fulfilling these functions, it has a legal duty to provide access and to accommodate the needs of students and employees, and it must also provide a professional, healthy and safe environment in which individuals can work and attend school.

Consequently, the school recognizes the need to have on our campuses specially trained animals that assist persons with disabilities. It also recognizes the need to minimize the potential health and safety risks to students and employees, and potential reputational harm, that may result from the presence of other animals/pets on our campuses.

### 2. POLICIES

- (a) LCS recognizes that there exists at all times, the presence of staff, students and other visitors who may have allergies and/or anxieties caused by the presence of pets and animals on campus.
- (b) With the exception of animals providing assistance to persons with disabilities, or for educational purposes approved by the campus principal, it is the policy of the school that:
  - 2.b.1. animals/pets are not permitted inside any school building;
  - 2.b.2. animals/pets must remain on leash at all times;
  - 2.b.3. animals/pets may not be brought within 3.0 metres of any school building;
  - 2.b.4. animals/pets may not be released on any field or playground.
- (c) Where applicable, the animal/pet should be licensed, vaccinated and have I.D. tags.
- (d) Personal assistance or service animals may be allowed on campus provided they are registered, trained and staff have the principal's permission or are certified as a guide animal pursuant to the Guide Animal Act of British Columbia.
- (e) If the animal/pet causes a disturbance, interrupts the work of others or poses a health or safety risk to students or staff, the animal/pet must immediately be removed from campus by its owner and kept off campus permanently.

- (f) By bringing a non-exempt animal/pet onto a campus, the owner accepts sole financial and legal responsibility for any damage, injury or other harm caused by the animal /pet and will indemnify the school should it be found legally liable for any injury or other harm caused by the animal/pet.
- (g) Teachers, with reasonable notice, must notify the principal if allowing a pet or other animal to visit the classroom as part of their educational planning for students.
- (h) Questions of interpretation or application of this policy shall be referred to the Head of School and/or Director of Operations whose decision shall be final.

### 3. EMPLOYEE-OWNED PETS

- (a) LCS recognizes that many children, parents and/or staff may have allergies or phobias of pets, therefore staff may not bring pets to school while students are in session.
- (b) Pet owners shall be held responsible for any personal or property damage caused by their pet e.g., damage from accidents, excessive dog hair and odour removal.
- (c) With the principal's permission, in cases where there is no reasonable solution for the care of a staff member's personal pet, a temporary exemption may be allowed for no more than one week for a staff member to bring a personal pet on campus while instruction is not in session. The pet may not enter any hallway, common area, staffroom or office and must remain on leash at all times.

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Reviewed: 12 2025