



## SEDBERGH INTERNATIONAL SUMMER SCHOOL

<b>Pet Policy</b>	
Version	2020.2
Effective from	October 2020
Extent of Policy	Sedbergh International Summer School
Policy Owner	Gemma Newton
Review by	September 2021
Frequency of Audit	Annual
Circulation	Parents (by request) All staff
Publication	Website Staff Handbook

### **Pets, Dogs and Cats**

Sedbergh's rural location and outdoor culture mean that many term-time colleagues own dogs and some own cats. Many of Sedbergh School's and Casterton, Sedbergh Preparatory School's pupils enjoy the presence of pets and find them to be a reassuring and homely feature of boarding school life. At the same time, we must be mindful that not all of the children and our colleagues feel that way. Animals may also impact on the fabric of the school through fouling, chewing, scratching and moulting.

The School's position on pets, predominantly dogs and cats, is as follows:

1. Staff may only keep pets in school accommodation with the Headmaster's permission. Please do not commit to purchasing a pet without first seeking authorisation, this is especially important if the pet is to be a present for a child.
2. Staff are personally responsible for any damage caused by their pets to school property. The school will undertake the repairs itself and charge the pet owner for the repair work.

3. Pets must have third party insurance to cover against injury to a pupil, visitor or colleague. The School may ask to see this insurance.
4. Pets are not permitted in classrooms or offices which should be accessible to all, irrespective of whether people like animals.
5. If pets live in private side accommodation in boarding houses, owners must ensure that they do not interfere with their role or access the Boarding House.
6. Dogs should be kept away from playing fields and all fouling must be picked up and disposed of responsibly by the owner.
7. A pet which injures a person or pupil will not be allowed to stay on School property under any circumstances.

In line with this, Sedbergh International Summer School("the Summer School")'s position on accepting pets is as follows:

1. Staff applying for a role with the Summer School must declare if they wish to bring pets with them as early as possible in the application process.
2. This request will be discussed by the Course Director with the Bursar, School nurse, Welfare Officer and Prep School Headmaster as appropriate. The final decision will be made by the Course Director and communicated to the staff member in question.
3. Any agreement to bring pets will be subject to change, for example if a pupil enrolls on the summer course with an allergy to the pet(s) in question. In this case, the Summer School will try to make arrangements (e.g. keeping the pets in staff accommodation only) to minimise risk of a reaction.
4. If no arrangement can be made to accept the pupil and have the pet on the school premises, the staff member will be informed that the pet cannot be brought to the Summer School.

The Summer School's position on any pets who are brought to the premises is as follows:

1. Staff are personally responsible for any damage caused by their pets to Summer School property. The Summer School will undertake the repairs itself and charge the pet owner for the repair work.
2. Pets must have third party insurance to cover against injury to a pupil, visitor or colleague. The Summer School may ask to see this insurance.
3. Pets are not permitted in classrooms or offices which should be accessible to all, irrespective of whether people like animals.
4. If pets live in private side accommodation in boarding houses, owners must ensure that they do not interfere with their role or access the Boarding House.
5. Dogs should be kept away from playing fields and all fouling must be picked up and disposed of responsibly by the owner.
6. A pet which injures a person or pupil will not be allowed to stay on Summer School property under any circumstances.