
ANIMALS ON SCHOOL GROUNDS

The Bainbridge Island School District recognizes that the study of animals can be an important part of a student’s education. However, care must be taken to ensure a safe and healthy environment.

- A. The district limits animal access to its buildings and property during school hours and school sponsored events to the purposes specified in this policy to:
 - 1. Maintain air quality.
 - 2. Provide a healthy, safe, respectful environment for all people who may use the public space.
 - 3. Preserve the general cleanliness and condition of the facilities.

- B. An “animal” is a living, nonhuman mammal, reptile, insect, bird, fish or amphibian. Animal access is allowed on district property if one of the following conditions is met:
 - 1. The animal serves as an aid specific to an individual who has a documented need for an accommodation from a qualified provider. In such cases, the animal owner/handler must notify the superintendent or designee, who will grant accommodation in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), and all other national and state law.
 - 2. The animal is an instructional support to a classroom lesson outlined in district-adopted curriculum, and its presence provides an educational benefit.
 - 3. District staff members are complying with law enforcement or other government emergency service agencies.
 - 4. Animals are confined in a vehicle.
 - 5. After school hours and sponsored events.
 - 6. Exceptions to this policy may be requested and granted by the school building principal or the facility supervisor.

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| Cross Reference | Board Policy | 2030 | Service Animals in Schools |
| Legal References | RCW | 16.08.020 16.08.040 | Dogs Dog Bites – Liability |