

Children's Code of Conduct

Please read this to the children before each visit by the dog and handler. You may want to use this as a discussion topic about general behaviour around animals in your community.

To stay safe around animals you must do the following:

1. Always ask the owner before touching any animal.
2. You must wash your hands before and after meeting the animal.
3. Listen to what the handler tells you.
4. Animals may be frightened by sudden movements – so walk, don't run or jump.
5. Give the animal plenty of space so it doesn't feel scared.
6. Be quiet and talk quietly when around animals.
7. Only feed an animal if the owner has told you to do so.
8. If you would to clap at the end of the talk, then please do it very quietly as it may startle the dog.

If children do not behave properly around the animal, the handler may have to take the dog away.

Children with a phobia of dogs should not be forced to meet the dog and should have the choice of leaving the room if they wish.

Please make the handler aware of children with dog phobias or allergies at the start of the session.

Pleased note: There must be at least one member of staff to supervise the children at all times during the visit.

Not all speakers are able to bring dogs with them and you can ask speakers not to bring dogs along, if you prefer.