

# CHILDREN & DOGS

Some do's and don'ts to keep everyone safe and happy

**DO** always ask the owner before approaching or touching a dog

**DON'T** approach a dog that is alone or tied up; some dogs may feel vulnerable and behave differently to normal

**DO** teach children how to be safe & respectful around animals

**DO** move slowly and quietly around dogs so that they don't get over-excited, anxious or afraid

**DON'T** scream, wave your arms about or shout around dogs as it can scare or frighten them

**DO** teach your dog a good recall so that you can call it away from children, those playing games or having a picnic

**DO**, when touching a dog with the owner's permission avoid hugging, picking up or putting faces into the dog's face

**DO** treat dogs with respect and consideration, leave them alone when sleeping, eating or chewing

**DON'T** ever leave dogs and children alone together; dogs are not child minders or toys

**DO** carry water for your dog in the summer; they can over-heat and dehydrate very quickly

**DO** touch dogs gently on the side that's closest to you, patting on the head is not always a nice thing to do

**DO** take into account the weather when exercising your dog and avoid standing about on hot pavements or too much running about when it's very sunny

**DON'T** ever feed or touch someone's dog without permission of the owner

**DO** always keep an eye on your dog so that you can see if you need to pick up after it or call it away from others

**DO** always keep an eye on your child to ensure that it's not heading for a dog that's tied up, alone or fearful

**DON'T** ever chase after a strange dog or puppy, if they move away from you let them

**DO** make sure that you always have enough poo bags on you; no-one likes an owner that doesn't pick up

**DO** try to avoid staring directly at a dog especially one you don't know

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