

Animals in Schools Sample Forms

Sample language for a letter to parents of other students in class:

A (staff member/student/volunteer) may be bringing a pet to your child’s class for a show and tell type activity. The (staff member/parent of the student/volunteer) that brings the pet has agreed to assume full liability for any injury or damage the pet may cause. The person bringing the pet must be in control of the animal at all times, and will not leave the pet unattended at any time. The school has requested the owner verify that the animal has all required vaccinations and is in good health.

Please assist us by asking your child not to tease or provoke the pet in any manner, because even a good natured animal will attack if provoked.

If your child is allergic to an animal or is frightened by an animal, please notify the school. If you have any other questions or comments, please contact the building principal during school hours at the following number: _____ or in writing below.

Parent Signature

Date



Animal(s) in the School Request Form _____ Request Date _____

School _____

Staff Person _____

Room # _____

Type of Animal(s) _____

Number of Animals _____

Date(s) Animal(s) will be in school _____

Are animal's vaccinations up to date? Yes _____ No _____ N/A _____

If no, animal will not be allowed into the building.

What is the purpose of having the animal(s) in the school?

Who will be responsible for care of the animal(s) while it is in the building?

Health certificate signed by a licensed veterinarian? _____ Yes _____ No

Request Approved _____ Denied _____

Site Administrator Signature _____ Date _____

I _____ agree to the following conditions:

Print Name & Title

- To review safe handling and care with students including hand washing requirements
- To clean animal cage(s) daily
- To dispose of animal waste properly (double bagged and removed to outside dumpster immediately)
- To locate animal(s) away from ventilation system to avoid circulating allergens

Staff Member Signature _____ Date _____

Please post this request form.

Sample Canine Written Indemnity Agreement:

According to Washington State law (RCW 16.08.040), “the owner of any dog which shall bite or injure any one while such person is in or on a public place or lawfully in or on a private place shall be liable for such damages as may be suffered by the person bitten, regardless of the former viciousness of such dog or the owner’s knowledge of such viciousness. The dog owner is personally held strictly liable for the damage inflicted on any persons injured or harmed by the dog physically or emotionally in any manner.”

Therefore, if you are going to allow a staff member, student or volunteer to bring a dog into the school, we recommend a written indemnity agreement be signed by the parent prior to this arrangement. The following sample letter is what we believe such an agreement should include.

I understand according to the state law (RCW 16.08.040), the owner of any dog which shall bite or injure any one while such person is in or on a public place or lawfully in or on a private place shall be liable for such damages as may be suffered by the person bitten, regardless of the former viciousness of such dog or the owner’s knowledge of such viciousness. Because I have care, custody and control of the dog, I am assuming the responsibilities of a dog owner.

I understand that I am strictly liable personally for the damage inflicted on any persons injured or harmed by the dog physically or emotionally in any manner. I shall provide proof of homeowner’s insurance with a liability limit of at least \$300,000 to back up my claim of financial responsibility.

I will indemnify, defend, protect and hold the Port Angeles School District, its officers, officials, employees and volunteers harmless from any and all claims, injuries, damages, causes of action, costs (including attorney fees), suits or judgments arising out of the injuries and damages in connection with bring a dog in and outside of district property.

I will provide proof that the dog has up-to-date vaccinations. I will also make sure that the dog has received regular flea treatment, and is groomed and bathed frequently. I agree to clean up my dog’s waste properly on school property. A disposal bag will be carried at all times.

I understand that the dog will remain on a leash and will not be unattended at any time while on district property. The dog’s behavior in public will be properly maintained. I understand that the district has the right to revoke permission for this activity at any time for non-compliance with any rule in this agreement.