***Child Care Pet Policy***

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| Name of Child Care:  Little Kings and Queens Child Care Center | Phone Number:  (513) 300-0627 |
| Address:  **924 141st LN SW** | |
| City/State/Zip:  **Lynnwood, WA 98087** | |

This policy is required by: Foundational Quality WAC for Centers and Family Home Child Cares 110-300-0225 and School-age WAC 110-305-4800-4900

***General Pet Restrictions***

Pets will be inaccessible to children with pet allergies. Before a child with allergies enters an area where pets have been, it will be cleaned and disinfected.

No aggressive or harmful pets will be allowed on the premises. *WAC 110-300-0225-3c*

No pets are allowed in the following areas:

Around infants and toddlers

Where any child eats, sleeps, or actively plays

Entrances and hallways

Food preparation areas

Children’s restrooms

Birds of the parrot family (parakeets, cockatiels, etc.) are not allowed around infants and toddlers:\*

Reptiles and amphibians are not allowed around enrolled children. *WAC 110-300-0225-4a*

***Pets on our Premises***

Animals in this child care have been carefully chosen in regards to care, temperament, health risks, and appropriateness for young children.

We have the following pets or animals at our child care:

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| **Type of Animal** | **Potential Health Risks Associated with this Animal** |
| Poodle Terrier Mix (Dog) 14 Lbs. | individuals may have allergies to certain animals. Often the allergy is toward the dander of the animal. Animal dander is also a trigger for some individuals with asthma.  Animals with fur or feathers |
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Pets and cages are located in master bedroom (Unlicensed space).

Handwashing reminder posters are placed in the immediate vicinity of the pet’s enclosure.

All pet supplies, pet medications, and food will be kept out of reach of children.

***Care of Pets***

Pets will be provided with adequate and appropriate food and water.

Pet containers and cages are cleaned and disinfected weekly or as often as needed (immediate cleaning and disinfecting if pet odors are evident). The disinfectant we use is Clorox Bleach Wipes. *WAC 110-300-0225-5b*

Cages, litter boxes, and containers will be cleaned and disinfected in utility areas – not around child play areas or kitchen/food preparation areas. (see cleaning and disinfecting section below) *WAC 110-300-0225-4f*

Animal outdoor bathroom areas are inaccessible to children. The area will be picked up daily and litter disposed of in garbage cans or other approved means. The outdoor animal litter area is the backyard next to the flower pot and fence. *WAC 110-300-0225-5a*

***Responsibility for Resident Pets***

Responsibility of caring for the pet is specifically assigned:

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|  | **Name** | **Phone Number** |
| Primary responsible staff person | Torrie Amaratunge | (513) 300-0627 |
| Alternate staff member(s) | Melvin Amaratunge | (206) 856-2118 |
| Our veterinarian | Banfield | (425) 744-0730 |
| Who to call in an emergency | Torrie Amaratunge | (513) 300-0627 |

Our plan to care for pets when our facility is closed is to make sure he has food and water and to walk him at at least twice per day.

We keep records on our pets in the folder in the office space. The following pets at our child care require a license: George. His license is kept current.

All pet records (health, vaccinations, licenses, etc) are kept in folder in office space. *WAC 110-300-0225-5a*

Emergency supplies for the pet and copies of their records are keptin the folder in office space and in master bedroom closet (Unlicensed space).

***Cleaning and Disinfecting Procedure***

The area around the pets will be kept clean at all times and disinfected at least once a day and more often if necessary.

Animal cages, aquariums, and/or supplies will be cleaned outside. Animal equipment will never be cleaned in a kitchen or food preparation sink. If an outside location is used, it will be away from children’s play areas. *WAC 110-300-0225-4f*

Staff will either bring the animal to the utility area or place the animal in a temporary cage or container.

Wash hands and wear gloves

All debris and waste will be discarded in a plastic bag, tied and placed in the outdoor garbage container

Animal equipment (container, cage, dishes, etc.) will be cleaned using soap and water, rinsed, and disinfected. Allow adequate contact time with the disinfectant and then rinse again. The equipment will be allowed to air dry before returning the pet the cage or container.

Clean and disinfect the sink, faucet, and counter

Remove gloves and wash hands

Return pet to container or cage

Wash hands

***Child-Pet Interaction***

Occasionally children may interact with the animal in the following ways:

They may pet George under direct supervision by Torrie Amaratunge.

To ensure children stay safe during these interactions, the following steps are taken:

Children will complete curriculum regarding the animal and how to interact gently and appropriately

Children will be taken in small groups one at a time and will be directly supervised by a staff member

Only trained animals that tolerate handling can interact with the children.

Immediately stop interaction with animals showing stress or harmful behaviors. (Decide about keeping such animals.)

If children handle, touch, or hold pets the following procedures and rules will be in place:

There will be one child at a time to pet George under direct supervision.

Afterwards hand washing by everyone involved will occur immediately.

Describe your handwashing policy regarding pets:

Anyone who has touched the dog must wash their hands immediately afterwards with soap and water.

*Remember: Children and staff will wash their hands in the nearest hand-washing sink after handling pets or touching containers where the animal is located.*

***For more information***

**If you would like more information about the pets at the center please contact** Torrie Amaratunge at (513) 300-0627

Plan last updated on: 9/2019

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04/2019

***Review of Pet Policy by Parents/Guardians***

I have read, understood, and agree with this policy.

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| ***Child’s Name (please print)*** | ***Parent/Guardian Signature*** | ***Date*** |
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***Potential Health Concerns Associated with Common Child Care Pets***

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| **Health Concern** | **Description** | **Animals Potentially Implicated** |
| Allergies | Individuals may have allergies to certain animals. Often the allergy is toward the dander of the animal. Animal dander is also a trigger for some individuals with asthma. | Animals with fur or feathers |
| Biting | Many animals can bite. Aggressive animals should not be kept at child care facilities due to the risk for injury. Germs can be passed from the animal and can infect the bite area. | Most animals |
| Cat Scratch Fever | Also called Bartonellosis, this bacteria causes fever, fatigue, and swollen lymph nodes. Cats can carry the bacteria and show no signs of illness. | Cats |
| Diarrheal Illnesses | Several bacteria and parasites animals may carry can be passed to people and cause gastrointestinal illness. Some of these include Salmonella, Campylobacter, Cryptosporidium, E. coli O157:H7, and Giardia. Symptoms may include diarrhea, vomiting, nausea, stomach cramps, or fever. Many reptiles are carriers of Salmonella and show no symptoms. The U.S. Centers for Disease Control recommends against having pet reptiles in child cares or homes where children under age 5 reside. | Reptiles, amphibians, cats, dogs, farm animals, birds, hedgehogs, ducks, chickens, chicks, wild animals |
| Fleas and ticks | May be carried by animals and transferred to humans. Ticks may carry Lyme Disease or Rocky Mountain Spotted fever that can be passed to humans. Fleas can cause itching, allergic reactions, and may spread some illnesses. | Dogs, cats, rodents, hedgehogs, farm animals |
| Hookworm | Several types of parasites cause hookworm infections. In the intestines, hookworms can cause bleeding and abdominal pain. | Dogs and cats, especially puppies and kittens |
| Leptospirosis | A bacterial disease that can cause flu-like symptoms in humans. Life-threatening illness can result from infections of vital organs such as the liver, brain, lung, or heart. It is spread through the urine of infected animals. | Dogs, wild animals including rodents |
| Mycobacterial infection | Bacterial infections that can be passed to humans, especially individuals with compromised immune systems. | Fish, amphibians, birds |
| Pasteurella bacteria | Carried by most rabbits, this bacteria may cause an infection of a bite or a scratch | Rabbits |
| Psittacosis | Also called Parrot Fever, this respiratory disease can be spread to humans. It causes symptoms similar to the flu, usually with a dry cough and a fever. It can lead to pneumonia and other complications in humans. | Birds of the parrot family (parakeets, cockatiels, parrots, lovebirds, etc.), doves, pigeons, turkeys, ducks, occasionally canaries or finches |
| Rabies | A severe viral disease that affects the central nervous system. Rabies is fatal to humans once symptoms start. Many dogs, cats, and horses are given routine rabies vaccines to protect them from the disease. | Dogs, raccoons, bats, skunks, occasionally other mammals |
| Rare Diseases | Some uncommon illness may be carried by animals and have the potential to be transmitted to humans. For example, some prairie dogs have been shown to carry plague or monkeypox. Do not keep wild animals as pets. | Wild animals including prairie dogs |
| Ringworm | Caused by fungus and affecting the skin and scalp by producing a ring-shaped rash or dry, scaly area. Transmitted by contact with an infected animal’s skin or hair. | Dogs, cats, rabbits, guinea pigs, mice, rats, horses, goats, cows, pigs |
| Roundworm | An intestinal parasite that can be transmitted from animals to humans through the pet’s feces. Puppies are more likely to have infections than older dogs, although many pets show no signs of infection. Roundworm eggs may be found in feces; feces should be kept off of playgrounds. | Dogs, cats, farm animals, wild animals |
| Tapeworms | A parasite that lives in the intestinal tract of animals. Can be passed to humans. | Dogs, cats |
| Toxoplasmosis | A parasite that is shed in the feces of cats. Toxoplasmosis is of particular concern to pregnant women and individuals with compromised immune systems. | Cats |

\* Reptiles and amphibians are salmonella carriers, which can be transmitted to humans, and can be harmful or fatal to young children. Psittacosis is a disease transmitted by birds of the parrot family which can be transmitted to humans and can be harmful or fatal to young children.

**Pet Policy**

Snohomish Health District

Revised 4/2019

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***Care and Handling of Pets***

**Child Care Health Outreach Program**

3020 Rucker Avenue, Suite 300 Everett, WA 98201-3900 HYPERLINK "[http://www.snohd.org](http://www.snohd.org/)" [**www.snohd.org**](http://www.snohd.org/) tel: 425.252.5415

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