

C HILDREN and DOGS

It is very important that children and dogs are kept safe around each other. To avoid incidents follow the safety tips below.

Parents and caregivers:

- Supervise children at all times when they are interacting with a dog - especially visitor's children.
- Never leave your baby (or young child) and dog alone together even to answer the door or go to the toilet - take either one of them with you.
- Never tie a dog lead to the baby's pram; hold it in your hand.
- Discourage children from disciplining a dog.

Teach children:

- Not to approach a dog that is eating, sleeping, has puppies or is hurt.
- To be as still as "a statue" if a dog rushes at them. They should drop any food or toys they are holding and stand still and straight, with feet together, their fists held under their chin and their elbows close against their chest.
- Never stare a dog in the eyes or scream and run away.
- Not all dogs are as friendly as their own family dog.
- Always to ask the owner's permission before patting a dog - it's best to pat a dog on the chin, chest, or side of the neck.
- To practice the no look, no touch, no talk, no eye contact rule when they first meet a dog.
- Never to deliberately tease or annoy dogs.

