Pet and other animal Policy and Procedure

I believe that children can learn a lot from having contact with animals however I do have certain policies and procedures in place which will be followed to ensure safety of the children attending my setting. I have 2 dogs and 2 cats. Lilo is a cross bread pointer/border collier who is 11 years old with no health complications. Kingsley is a kennel club registered French bulldog who is fully vaccinated and is 1 years old. I have 2 cats also who are 11 and 3 years old named Trix and Lynx. All animals have a monthly de flee treatment with Advantage flee treatment. All animals are also regularly de wormed which is provided by the local veterinary practice.

All animals are continuously around my 3 children on a daily basis and have never shown signs of any aggression towards anyone child or adult.

Pet procedure:

* Children will encourage to show animals respect whilst within the setting, how to act around animals as well as how to handle them carefully.
* Although my pets are friendly, there will always be a risk of them getting upset if a child mishandles them. I will always closely supervise children when around my pet with the aim of avoiding any biting/scratching however please be aware that the risk cannot be completely removed.
* Children will wash their hands after any contact with the animals and understand the reasoning around this.
* Food for pets will be out of child of all children.
* A high standard of hygiene will be in place with careful thought of where pets food will be placed as well as drinking bowels.
* My garden will be checked every morning before children attend the setting
* If your child has any allergy to any pets or animals please notify me and we can discuss whether it will be possible for them to safely attend my setting.

Other animals:

* Children will be taught that not all animals are friendly and that they should always check with then animals owner before approaching any animal outside of the setting.
* If your child has a fear of animals again please notify me before your child attends the setting. We can then discuss if it is a suitable setting for your child and whether I can comply with any wishes regarding pets and animal interactions.

Safety procedure:

* All animals will be kept in a separate room away from the childrens play space. This area will be the kitchen and/or outside space.
* A safety stairgate will be put within the doorway to the kitchen to minimise interaction with both dogs
* Cats will have free access to the house as they will tend to keep away from the children when within the home. If appropriate the cat flap will be locked during the settings opening hours if the weather is convenient for them to be outside for the day.
* All dogs will be fed before the arrival of any children and then bowels will be put away in a secure cupboard out of reach of children.
* No animal will be allowed or encourage on any food preparation surface. All work surfaces will be cleaned with disinfectant before food is being prepared.
* When access or using the kitchen area all animals will be put outside to minimise any risk to children during their time in this area of the setting.
* Both dogs will have a secure bed space which can be opened and shut as needed
* All animals will be monthly flee treated with Advantage Flee treatment as well as regular de worming which will be provided by the local veterinary practice.
* If any accidents occur between the children and any pet with the setting parent/carer will be discussed with at collection time and an appropriate action plan to prevent the accident occurring again will be discussed between myself (Rowan Kennedy-brown and then parent/carer of the child).

Signed : Rowan Kennedy-Brown

Date : 27/01/2022

Review date :