

## Exercise and Enrichment Policy

Pawsome Pooches Exercise and Enrichment Policy has been designed to include grooming, socialisation and play times. I will endeavour to make sure that all dogs no matter their age have an enjoyable and engaging time during their visits.

It is been created to cover the holistic needs of every breed and will ensure that the dogs physical as well as emotional health is being observed and activities involving these will be incorporated into their daily routine.

This Policy will be discussed with the Clients at a Meet and Greet and an agreement will be made with the client as to what they wish to include into their dogs routine. If a dog requires extra or an alternative due to their age then this should be an opportunity to discuss and agree a plan.

All dogs will be treated as individuals with their own needs will be provided for through enrichment and exercise. If the dog is older or medically less able they will be given enrichment toys and different ways to alleviate boredom. When the boarding dogs are not walked they will have access to the garden.



## **Walks**

If a dog is under a year old will get 5 mins of exercise for every month of their life twice daily.

Adults dogs in good health will get two walks minimum a day. One long walk 60mins+, which with the owners consent. Also with off lead walking with clients consent. Every care will be taken to insure dogs individual exercise needs are met with the agreement of the client.

All walking equipment must be provided by the client. We encourage our clients to use secure harnesses and soft leads. No retractable leads are permitted due to unreliability. All equipment provided must be in a clean and safe condition.

All dogs must have a collar/harness with client/dog name. We will boarding dogs with one of our identity tags on. Our tags include our name, address and number.

In the case of extreme weather the type of exercise will be modified. In cases of extreme heat the boarders will have shorter walks in the mornings and evenings. Enrichment will be provided at home, padding pool provided and also cooling mats.

Breeds with shorter noses will have a limited exercise and watched very carefully and access to a fan at all times. I

f boarding dogs get caught in the rain, they will be dried off and heating used to keep them comfortable. All paws will be cleaned after walking on pavements due to gritting and mud.

Dog will be monitored during walk if in distress, walk will be halted and turn back home. Dog will not be walked in thunder and lightning storms.

If dogs are boarding at a time of fireworks are in use, the walks will be during daylight hours.

## **Playtime and Enrichment toys**

All dogs will enjoy playtime sessions, using tug of war, treat giving toys, puzzle toys, snuffle time and licky mats. I also have a tunnel for the dogs to practice agility and some may even want time on the trampoline!

## Grooming and Healthcare Enrichment Activities

Each morning, every dog will undergo a check-up that includes grooming and inspection. During this time, their eyes, ears and teeth will be cleaned or examined. Additionally, each dog will be brushed, and any tangles will be gently removed. If a dog needs a bath, this will be done as calmly and quickly as possible. Ensuring that the dog remains clean and comfortable and remains pain free is of the utmost importance to me.

Grooming will take place in a calm environment so as not to distress the dog, it will be a positive experience and dogs who are new to it will be rewarded with cuddles and if allowed treats.

As well as doing this for cleanliness and hygiene, spending time with each dog individually caring for their needs will help grow and strengthen a bond between us.

After each dog the brushes will be cleaned to prevent any spread of infection or fleas.

## Socialisation

It is important to me to provide a structured and supervised time for the dogs to build friendships and have positive interactions with each other. I will be making sure that each dog is safe and does not feel intimidated or stressed around the other dogs. I will be guided by observing the signs of the dogs comfort levels. If I already know that a big dog has a dislike to smaller dogs or vice versa, I would ensure to either keep them separate or introduce them slowly to each other to allow a supervised time together. Ultimately it is my goal to make sure all boarding dogs are happy, safe and feel secure in our family home.

