

Drayton Bassett Parish Council

Drayton Bassett Playing Fields: Dog Control Policy

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1. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that the Playing Fields in Drayton Bassett remain a safe, clean, and enjoyable environment for all users, including children, families, sports participants, and visitors, while allowing responsible dog ownership.

2. Scope

This policy applies to **all dog owners and persons in charge of dogs** using the Playing Fields, including grassed areas, pathways, play areas, and any adjacent facilities.

3. Dogs on Leads

- All dogs **must be kept on a lead at all times** while on the Playing Fields.
- Leads must be no more than 2m in length to ensure the dog remains under close control.
- Dogs must not be tied to gates, fences, play equipment, or sports fixtures.

4. Control of Dogs

- Dog owners and handlers must keep their dogs **under proper control at all times**.
- Dogs must not behave in a manner that causes nuisance, alarm, distress, or danger to other users, livestock, or wildlife.
- Aggressive or persistently uncontrolled dogs must be removed from the Playing Fields immediately.

5. Fouling and Cleanliness

- Dog owners and handlers are **legally and personally responsible** for cleaning up after their dogs.
- All dog fouling must be removed immediately and disposed of in an appropriate bin or taken home.
- Failure to clean up after a dog is unacceptable and may result in enforcement action where applicable.

6. Restricted Areas

- Dogs are **not permitted** in designated children's playing areas, sports pitches during use, courts, BMX track or any other areas where signage indicates restrictions.
- Owners must observe and comply with all posted signs relating to dog control.

7. Health and Safety

- Dog owners must ensure their dogs do not interfere with organised activities, sports events, maintenance work, or emergency access.
- Any incidents involving injury, damage, or significant disturbance caused by a dog should be reported to the appropriate authority or managing body.

8. Enforcement

- This policy is supported by relevant legislation, including local by-laws and Public Spaces Protection Orders (where applicable).
- Failure to comply with this policy may result in being asked to leave the Playing Fields and could lead to further action by the relevant authority.

9. Review

This policy will be reviewed periodically to ensure it remains effective, proportionate, and aligned with current legislation and community needs.

| Date Created | Date Adopted | Date Revised | Review Date |
|---------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|
| February 2026 | | | February 2027 |