**Dog Behaviour Policy**

*For Dog Boarding & Daycare Services*

**1. Enrichment Provided**

We believe in providing a stimulating environment to support each dog's physical and mental well-being. Our enrichment activities include:

* Interactive toys and puzzles to encourage problem-solving
* Sensory activities such as scent trails and textured play areas
* Supervised group play sessions
* Individual play and human interaction for dogs that prefer solo activities
* Exposure to a variety of controlled environments and experiences

**2. Grooming**

Regular grooming is essential for a dog’s comfort and health. We ensure that:

* Dogs receive basic coat maintenance, brushing, and hygiene care as required
* Bathing and grooming sessions are conducted in a calm, stress-free manner
* Grooming is used as a positive experience, incorporating reward-based handling techniques
* Staff monitor dogs for any skin conditions, matting, or discomfort and inform owners accordingly

**3. Socialisation & Play**

Socialisation is key to a well-balanced and confident dog. We provide:

* Carefully supervised interactions with dogs of appropriate temperament and size
* Positive experiences with people to build trust and reduce fear-based behaviours
* Exposure to different sounds, surfaces, objects, and environments in a safe manner
* Guided play sessions to reinforce appropriate social skills
* Special considerations for young, nervous, or inexperienced dogs to ensure they develop at their own pace

**4. Behaviour Monitoring & Reporting**

All behaviours, both positive and negative, are closely monitored. Our approach includes:

* Continuous observation of each dog’s behaviour, body language, and interactions
* Daily behaviour logs completed by staff and shared with owners
* Identification of any developing behavioural concerns and prompt communication with owners
* Seeking professional advice for unsocial or aggressive behaviour to ensure safety for all dogs and staff
* Implementing behaviour management strategies in consultation with owners and professionals where necessary

**5. Positive Reinforcement Training Methods**

We are committed to force-free, reward-based training methods. Our staff adhere to the following principles:

* Use of treats, praise, and toys to reinforce desirable behaviours
* No use of aversive tools, force, or punishment-based methods
* Encouraging calmness and good manners through structured activities
* Teaching impulse control and polite interactions using gentle guidance
* Supporting dogs to build confidence and learn appropriate behaviours through patience and consistency

**6. Developmental Opportunities for Dogs**

All dogs, including puppies and young dogs, will have opportunities to:

* Interact positively with people, other dogs, and different environments
* Experience a variety of safe and controlled noises, objects, and activities
* Engage in exploratory walks where they can encounter new sights and smells
* Participate in structured play and socialisation exercises suited to their developmental stage
* Receive individualised support to build confidence and resilience

By following this policy, we aim to create a safe, enriching, and positive experience for all dogs in our care while supporting their emotional, physical, and social well-being.

**Signed:**
K9 Doggy Daycare UK[Date]
Tracey Marriott