

Policy Title	Children & Animals in the Academic Setting
Policy Number:	ADM 1.02
Department:	SCHS
Functional Area:	Administration
Contributing Department	
Approved by:	RHEI Leadership Team
Effective Date:	8/1/2024
Version:	1
Status:	Approved
Manual	To be entered by Compliance360 System administrators or N/A if not in C360
Section	ADM 1

I. Mission, Vision and Values

This policy reflects our commitment to human dignity, integrity, compassion, stewardship, and service by guiding decisions and actions that uphold respect for all individuals and promote excellence in our work.

This policy aligns with our mission of extending the compassionate ministry of Jesus by improving the health and well-being of our communities and providing good help to those in need, especially the poor, dying, and underserved by ensuring that our practices support ethical, effective, and accountable service across all areas of the organization.

II. Policy

Children & Animals in the Academic Setting

III. Purpose

To provide guidance around the presence of children and animals in facilities owned or controlled by Bon Secours Southside College of Health Sciences (SCHS).

IV. Scope

This policy applies to all SCHS students, associates, and guests.

V. Policy Details

The College is an institution of higher learning and as such, the environment is not always well suited for children or animals. Children are permitted on College facilities for social events and brief visits. Children must be accompanied by an adult at all

times and the adult must be mindful of any distractions this may cause others while at the College. Children are not permitted to be in the classroom or practicum setting without prior written approval by the Dean of Academic Affairs or designee.

Animals are not permitted in any College facility, with the following exceptions:

- Working service animals.
- College-approved emotional support animals.
- Animals under the control of a law enforcement officer during the law enforcement officer's duties.
- Animals approved by the College for use in research or for instructional purposes.

VI. Definitions

None

VII. Attachments

N/A

VIII. Related Policies and Procedures

None

IX. Regulatory Notices

Nothing in this policy creates a contractual relationship between Bon Secours Southside College of Health Sciences (SCHS), a department owned and controlled by Bon Secours Mercy Health Petersburg, LLC (d/b/a Southside Medical Center), and any party. SCHS, in its sole discretion, reserves the right to amend, terminate or discontinue this policy at any time, with or without advance notice.

X. Version Control

Version	Effective Date	Next Review Date	Description	Supersedes, if applicable	Prepared By
1.0	7/23/2020	N/A	Moved to new template	N/A	P Roberson
1.0	3/22/2021	N/A	Biannual Review	1.0	Dean of Administration
1.1	5/2/2023	N/A	Triennial Review	1.0	Dean of Administration
2.0	7/24/2024	7/24/2027	Updated to align with 2024	1.1	Dean of Administration

			U.S. DOE regulations		
1	7/24/2024	7/24/2027	Version changed – BSMH Template Adopted	1.1	Dean of Administration

This policy/procedure/guideline is not intended to establish a standard of clinical or non-clinical care or practice. Rather, this policy/procedure/guideline creates a general tool to help guide decision-making with the understanding that different action(s) may be necessary in response to the totality of the circumstances presented.

Sites revised 05/06/2025- Bon Secours Mercy Health adopts the above policy, procedure, policy & procedure, guideline, manual / reference guide / instructions, or principle / standard / guidance document for all Bon Secours Mercy Health entities including, but not limited to, facilities doing business as Mercy Health – St. Vincent Medical Center, St. Vincent – St. Charles Hospital, St. Vincent – St. Anne Hospital, Mercy Health – Perrysburg Medical Center, Mercy Health – Tiffin Hospital, Mercy Health – Willard Hospital, Mercy Health – Defiance Hospital, Mercy Health Allen Hospital LLC, Mercy Health - Lorain Hospital, Mercy Health St. Elizabeth Youngstown Hospital, Mercy Health St. Joseph Warren Hospital, Mercy Health - St. Elizabeth Boardman Hospital, Mercy Health - St. Rita's Medical Center, Mercy Health – Springfield Regional Medical Center, Mercy Health - Urbana Hospital, Mercy Health - Anderson Hospital, Mercy Health - Clermont Hospital, Mercy Health – Fairfield Hospital, Mercy Health - West Hospital, The Jewish Hospital – Mercy Health, Mercy Health – Kings Mills Hospital, LLC, Mercy Health - Lourdes Hospital LLC, Mercy Health – Marcum and Wallace Hospital, Chesapeake Hospital Corporation DBA Rappahannock General, Maryview Hospital, Bon Secours Richmond Community, Bon Secours Memorial Regional Medical Center, Bon Secours – St. Mary's Hospital, Bon Secours St. Francis Health System, Bon Secours St. Francis Medical Center, Bon Secours Mary Immaculate Hospital, Bon Secours - Southside Medical Center, Bon Secours Mercy Health Franklin, LLC, Southern Virginia Medical Center, and Bon Secours Harbour View Medical Center. This also may apply to Bon Secours Mercy Health Medical Group LLC and its medical group affiliates.