

**LOLLI’S-PUPS EXTREME WEATHER POLICY**

**Hot Weather Policy**

*When the HEAT arrives, dogs can not only feel hot and bothered – they are at more of a risk of potentially fatal heatstroke. Keeping them as cool as possible during the balmy summer months is vital. Here are the ways that* Lolli’s-Pups *will attempt to keep dogs cool in our care…*

**1. Paddling pool**

There’s nothing more refreshing on a hot day than a dip in the water. Dogs will be treated to a paddling pool in a shady spot in our garden filled with cool but not freezing cold water (that can cause a dog’s body to go into shock on a very hot day). We will make sure the paddling pool isn’t filled so high that dogs with little legs are out of their depth and struggle to get out.

While some dogs will dive straight in and splash about, other more water-shy dogs will need more encouragement – but even getting them to stand in the water for a short time is an effective way of cooling them down rapidly as dogs absorb and release heat through their paws. Keeping their coat wet during any hot spells also provides effective cooling.

**2. Ice packs in beds**

Using freezer blocks or a frozen plastic bottle of water, well wrapped in a blanket in a dog’s bed will help cool a dog down while resting.

**3. Wet, cool towels**

We will wet your dog’s coat or drench a towel in cool water and drape it over your dog. This will help in lowering body temperature.

**4. Ice treats**

Lolli’s-Pups will make ice cubes or lollies with a treat inside, or stuff a Kong and pop it into the freezer. Frozen carrots or apple slices are also a tasty – but healthy – snack to refresh a dog on a hot day.

**5. Get a fan**

Lolli’s-Pupshas several fans that we will place next to our dog’s usual lounging spot, and give them an extra cooling breeze by putting some frozen water bottles in front of it.

**6. Cool toys**

If your dog always has a toy in their mouth, then we will pop their favorite one in the freezer for a quick cooling fix. If a dog isn’t one to chew their way through toys, filling an old sock with rice and freezing it is also a good way of getting our dogs to keep something cool in their mouth.

**7. Garden sprinklers and water mists**

Filling a spray bottle with cool water and misting our dogs regularly will help keep body temperatures down, as will a garden sprinkler – if we can get our dogs to walk through it!

**8. Walk them at sensible times of the day**

Lolli’s-Pups will make sure we exercise the dogs in our care at cooler times of the day, either first thing in the morning or early evening. We could even include a walk that includes a pond or river for the dogs to take a quick dip to cool down. We will not walk on tarmac during the heat on the day with dogs in our care when the weather is extremely hot. We will keep in the shade as much as possible and provide shady spots in the garden too. If appropriate the walks will be shortened.

**9. Keep them hydrated**

It may sound like common sense, but Lisa's Dog Care will make sure our dogs always have access to fresh, cool water – including when we are out on a walk with them. Anything that encourages them to drink is a good idea, such as putting iced treats in their water bowl. If they’re spending lots of time outside, we will make sure there’s also a water bowl filled with cool water out of direct sunlight in the garden.

**Cold Weather Policy**

*When the COLD arrives, we need to ensure dogs are kept warm and safe while out walking in cold temperatures. Keeping them as warm as possible during the cold winter months is vital. Here are the ways that Lisa's Dog Care will attempt to keep dogs warm in our care….*

**1. Not leaving dogs outside unattended.**

When the thermometer dips Lisa's Dog Care will not leave our dogs outside unattended – most pet dogs spend a lot of time inside and aren’t used to the extreme cold so could develop hypothermia or frostbite.

**2. Winter coat or jumper**

Short-coated breeds really struggle to cope with the cold so Lisa's Dog Care will encourage owners to provide us with a coat for their dog to make sure they’re warm and cozy when they go outside.

**3. Trim hair around dog’s feet**

Trim the hair around your dog’s feet to help prevent ice-balls – these form between the pads and toes of the feet and are really painful.

**4. Walking on salty pavements**

Lolli’s-Pups will attempt not to walk dogs on pavements while they have been salted due to the cold weather. If a dog’s paws have come into contact with a salted pavement we will wash your dog’s paws after a walk because salt and grit can really irritate their footpads.

**5. Stay away from frozen ponds or lakes**

Lolli’s-Pups will stay away from frozen ponds or lakes and keep all dogs on a lead when near frozen water. Most dogs are strong swimmers but the cold water could cause hypothermia.

**6. Extreme cold weather.**

Lolli’s-Pups will not attempt to take dogs out for walks in really extreme weather due to icy roads and freezing temperature; instead we will keep dogs at home and spend time playing games indoors to stop them from getting too bored or frustrated. The dogs will still have access to play in the garden.

**7. Walking in the dark**

If we are out walking in the dark during the winter months a torch will be used to keep track of the dogs and reflective collars will be used.