

# Dogs, Children and the New Play Area

This question turned up in Susan's mailbox and we thought you might be interested in the reply:

Hi  
I am a local resident with children & very interested in the play area development. Do you know if the play area will be fenced off as I cannot make this out from the plan.

I am concerned about dog fouling which spoils the entire field at the moment & frequently stops my family using it.

Thanks for your time,

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No, it won't be fenced off. The amount of money available from the government Playfinder Scheme, aimed at 8-13 year olds, was only £10,000 for Troopers Hill Field. Fencing alone would have taken more than that amount. Also, while this project is not a Friends of Troopers Hill one, although we have helped as much as possible to publicise the Bristol Parks' consultations way back in spring and the proposed plans in summer, particularly at our Music on the Hill event, we generally prefer the idea of the whole Field being dog mess free and child friendly rather than children being penned into a small area.

One of the ways we are bringing home the message about responsible dog ownership is by having the Family Fun Dog Show, the second of which will take place this Sunday and will be attended by a Dog Warden, animal charities and the police, as well as lots of local people with their dogs, enjoying entering and watching the various events. We have also worked with Bristol City Council to have more dog bins installed and the right size dog bin in the right place. You may have noticed that in the last month a larger dog bin appeared at the Summerhill Terrace entrance. Troopers Hill's park keeper is well known for giving out free dog waste bags.

I totally agree with you that dog fouling is disgusting and dangerous. It is a great shame that a small number of irresponsible people put a very large number of very responsible people in a bad light. A great contribution to the very litter free appearance of the Field and Troopers Hill is due to a number of dog walkers voluntarily picking it up as they exercise their dogs.

For more information about Troopers Hill Field please see <http://www.troopershill.org.uk/field.htm>.

I don't think you are on our emailing list for our free newsletter which comes out every 3 months. If you would like to be please let me know. The last issue can be seen here

<http://www.troopershill.org.uk/news/Autumn09.pdf>

and it was this Spring issue <http://www.troopershill.org.uk/news/Spring09.pdf> that helped started the ball rolling publicising the funding available for play in Troopers Hill Field.

I do hope you and your family enjoy the finished play area.

Best wishes,

Susan

Friends of Troopers Hill

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