



Greensborough COLLEGE

Dogs in School Policy

PURPOSE

This policy takes into consideration the needs and expectations of all members of the Greensborough College community, and also aims to minimise the risk of accident or injury to people or animals within the College grounds.

RATIONALE

Dogs are an important part of life for many Greensborough College families, and as such are often included in day-to-day activities such as walking children to and from College. The College appreciates this inclusion and values pet ownership as an educational experience. The College also acknowledges other people can find contact with dogs stressful, even frightening.

POLICY

Assistance dogs

Greensborough College understands its obligations under the *Disability Discrimination Act 1992* (Cth) and the *Equal Opportunity Act 2010* (Vic) and will make reasonable adjustments for members of our school community with a disability who require an 'assistance animal' to help alleviate the effects of their disability. Assistance animals are permitted to attend our school with their handler. Our school Principal can lawfully ask a person to produce evidence that an animal:

- is trained specifically to assist a person alleviate the effects of a disability (eg seeing eye dogs)
- meets standards of hygiene and behaviour appropriate for a school environment.

We understand that in some circumstances, students may require an assistance animal to attend school to help them to participate in their educational program. Greensborough College will consider a request by a student with a disability to allow an assistance animal to attend school with them on a case-by-case basis. If you would like to discuss this further, please contact the Principal Class on 94332666.

Pet dogs

Greensborough College is not a public place, and our Principal has the authority to permit or decline entry to school grounds and impose conditions of entry.

Whilst Greensborough College understands that many families in our school community keep dogs as pets, to ensure that our school remains a safe and inclusive place for everyone, we have in place a number of rules that we expect all families to follow if they wish to bring their pet dog onto school grounds:

Guidelines:

- Dogs are not to be brought onto Greensborough College grounds between the hours of 7.30am to 10.00pm. This includes College based activities or events outside of these hours.
- The Principal may give permission for a pet dog to be brought into the school. The Principal and the dog owner will develop an agreement that outlines the purpose and guidelines of the visit that may include;
 - Pet dogs must not be tied up on school grounds or left unaccompanied around the main entrances to the College grounds where children may have to walk past them.
 - Families that bring dogs to school that exhibit signs of aggressive behaviour, bark, or jump may be asked to leave.
 - The dog owner is responsible for any soiling by the dog on the College grounds.
- Authorised assistance dogs, seeing eye dogs, customs dogs are exempt from this Policy.
- The Principal may make exceptions to this Policy at any stage.

The Principal has the authority to prohibit certain dogs from school grounds or modify this policy to ensure the safety and wellbeing of staff, students and members of our school community at any time.

Stray dogs

Unaccompanied or stray dogs sighted at our school should be reported immediately to the Administration Office. School staff will contact municipal authorities and/or Victoria police for assistance in managing and removing a stray dog from school grounds, and ensure staff and students remain safe at school.

RELATED POLICIES AND RESOURCES

[Visitors Policy](#)

[Duty of Care Policy](#)

REVIEW PERIOD

This policy was last updated on August and is scheduled for review in 2022