

Dogs and other Domestic Pets on Campus Policy

1. Our Commitment

Scotch College is committed to creating a welcoming and inclusive environment by establishing guidelines for bringing dogs or other domestic pets onto campus. This policy promotes the safety, wellbeing, and enjoyment of all members of staff, students and community members whilst accommodating individuals needs and requirements.

Due to both animal welfare and the bio-security risk posed by animals, the entry of dogs and other domestic pets into the farm area or walking along Farm Lane, is strictly prohibited. This includes assistance dogs.

Notwithstanding any other provision of this policy, animals that are unwell should never be brought onto the premises.

1.1 This policy applies to:

- All staff
- All students
- Campus residents
- Visitors and families

2. Guidelines

2.1 During School hours

- Dogs & domestic pets are prohibited on campus during school hours.
- Exemptions for learning opportunities, or other reasons such as *Bring your Dog/Pet* to school day (except as provided in section 2.2 and 2.4), must be sought from the Head of Mitcham Campus or the Deputy Principal (for Torrens Park), and a risk assessment must be undertaken prior to the event.

2.2 Exemptions

- Residents on Campus are automatically exempted to walk their dogs on the College grounds, outside of school hours, if the dogs are under effective control at all times.
- Exemptions apply in the Junior School (not including ELC) where parents/carers may walk students into campus grounds with their dog. All dogs must be kept on a short lead (less than 1.5m), under the control of an adult, must not enter buildings or learning areas or obscure doorway access. Owners should oversee responsible interactions with pets – discouraging children from putting their face near the pet or gathering too closely around the pet.

2.3 Out of School hours

- Dogs and domestic pets are permitted on campus after school operational hours with exception to the Early Learning Centre where Dogs are not permitted without prior arrangement and a risk assessment being undertaken.
- Dogs and domestic pets are not permitted inside learning or office areas
- If there are students present or approved activities taking place, dogs must be on a short lead (less than 1.5m) and under effective control.

2.4 Assistance Dogs

We acknowledge the vital role that assistance dogs play in supporting individuals. To ensure the safety of everyone involved, the following guidelines apply:

2.4.1 Assistance Dogs for Staff, Students & Contractors

- To bring a certified Assistance Dog into learning environments, office spaces, or other areas within the College, you must first obtain permission from the Deputy Principal.
- The College will consult with you to ensure that necessary reasonable adjustments can be made to support the use of an approved Assistance Dog designed to support disability.
- Prior to seeking approval from the Deputy Principal, a risk assessment must be undertaken in conjunction with People & Culture.

2.4.2 Assistance Dogs for Visitors

- Assistance dogs are always welcome on campus.
- Assistance dogs must be always on a short lead.