



Dogs at School

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| Purpose | To explain to our school community, the rules and procedures we have in place in relation to dogs attending our school grounds. |
| Policy | <p>Assistance dogs</p> <p>Grovedale West Primary School understands its obligations under the <i>Disability Discrimination Act 1992</i> (Cth) and the <i>Equal Opportunity Act 2010</i> (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:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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. <p>Pet dogs</p> <p>Grovedale West Primary School is not a public place, and our principal has the authority to permit or decline entry to school grounds and impose conditions of entry.</p> <p>Whilst Grovedale West Primary School 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, pet dogs are not permitted on school grounds under any circumstances. Our school community is diverse, and may include people that are allergic or uncomfortable around dogs. We are also conscious of the health hazards that may be posed by dogs. We ask that families please leave their pet dogs at home or safely tether them outside school grounds when attending our school or school events.</p> <p>Stray dogs</p> <p>Unaccompanied or stray dogs sighted at our school should be reported immediately to the Office on 52414774. 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.</p> <p>Delta Dogs</p> <p>Grovedale West Primary School uses the services of the Delta Dogs program to assist the school reading program. The trained and supervised dog regularly visits the school and engages with students with a focus on wellbeing and reading support.</p> |
| Review cycle | This policy was last updated on 20/8/18 and is scheduled for review in August 2020 |