



No. 5218

Sunbury & Macedon Ranges Specialist School

Sunbury Campus
Circular Drive, Sunbury
P.O. Box 304, Sunbury 3429
Phone: 9744 4879/9744 7734 Fax: 9740 8581

Sunbury Campus Email: sunbury.macedon.ranges.ss@edumail.vic.gov.au
Bullengarook Campus Email: sunbury.macedon.ranges.bullengarook@edumail.vic.gov.au
Website: www.smrss.vic.edu.au

Bullengarook Senior Campus
705 Bacchus Marsh Rd., Bullengarook
P.O. Box 962, Gisborne 3437
Phone: 5428 9222 Fax: 5428 9442

DOGS AT SUNBURY AND MACEDON RANGES SPECIALIST SCHOOL POLICY

PURPOSE:

To explain to our school community the rules and procedures we have in place in relation to dogs attending our school grounds.

IMPLEMENTATION:

Assistance Dogs

Sunbury and Macedon Ranges Specialist School understands its obligations under the *Disability Discrimination Act 1992* and the *Equal Opportunity Act 2010* (Vic) and will make reasonable adjustments for members of our school community 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 (e.g. 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. Sunbury and Macedon Ranges Specialist School will consider a request by a student 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/Campus Principal or Assistant Principal.

Pet Dogs

Sunbury and Macedon Ranges Specialist School is not a public place, and the principal has the authority to permit or decline entry to school grounds and impose conditions of entry.

Whilst Sunbury and Macedon Ranges Specialist 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 will only be permitted on schools' grounds with the Principal's permission.

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.

Stray dogs

Unaccompanied or stray dogs sighted at our school should be reported immediately to the school 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.

RESOURCES:

- SMRSS Duty of Care Policy 2019
- Common law duty of care
- Equal Opportunity Act 2010 (Vic)
- Disability Discrimination Act 1992
- Occupational Health and Safety Act 2004 (Vic)

EVALUATION:

This policy will be reviewed as part of the school's three-year review cycle.

This policy was last updated on 16th May 2021 and is scheduled for review in May 2024

Joanne Nolan.....
School Principal

Mark Davies.....
School Council President

Date: 19/05/21

Due for review: 2024