



MULGRAVE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Gladeswood Drive, Mulgrave Vic 3170

DOGS AT 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.

POLICY

Assistance dogs

Mulgrave Primary School 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 (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. Mulgrave Primary School 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 Charles Spicer on 97952477

Pet dogs

Mulgrave 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.

Dogs prohibited

Mulgrave Primary 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 from Monday – Saturday. Dogs are permitted on Sundays at the Mulgrave Farmers Market between 8:30 am -1pm.

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 Principal at 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.

This policy will be communicated to our school community in the following ways:

- Available publicly on our school's website <https://mulgraveps.vic.edu.au/>
- Included in staff induction processes and staff training
- Included in staff handbook/manual
- Discussed at parent information nights/sessions
- Reminders in our school newsletter
- Hard copy available from school administration upon request

RELATED POLICIES AND RESOURCES

Mulgrave Primary school's *Duty of Care* and *Visitors* policies.

REVIEW PERIOD

Policy last reviewed	May 2022
Approved by	Charles Spicer - Principal
Next scheduled review date	May 2025