

	<h2>Dogs at School</h2>	<p>Endorsed by Principal March 2022</p>
<p>Information: 02 6076 1566</p>	<p>DET Schools Reference Guide: The Department’s Policy and Advisory Library (PAL): Duty of Care and Visitors policy.</p>	<p>Next review: March 2026 4 yearly Issue No: 1.0</p>

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

Corryong 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. Corryong 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 School office on 02 60761566.

Dogs in Education

Dogs in Education supports specially trained dogs to assist students with emotional regulation, social connection and communication. They can help engage students in many curriculum areas by supporting children in feeling less self-conscious than they may feel around teachers and peers. For more information refer to Corryong College “Dogs in Education” Policy available on our website and www.dogsconnect.com.au

Pet dogs

Corryong 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 Corryong 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, 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.

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.

COMMUNICATION

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

- Available publicly on our school's website (or insert other online parent/carer/student communication method)
- Included in staff handbook/manual
- Reminders in our school newsletter
- Hard copy available from school administration upon request

RELATED POLICIES AND RESOURCES

Corryong College's policies:

- Supervision and Duty of Care
- Dogs in Education Policy
- Dogs in Education Agreement

POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Policy last reviewed	March 2022
Consultation	Corryong College School Council
Approved by	Principal
Next scheduled review date	4 yearly March 2026