



## Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand the information in this policy, please contact the College on 85990500 and ask to speak to your child's Head of Year or Year Level Leader who can arrange an interpreter.

## 1. Purpose and Rationale

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

## 2. Scope

This policy only applies to pet and stray dogs on school grounds. For policy information on wellbeing and engagement animals, refer to the department's [Wellbeing and Engagement Animals policy](#) on PAL.

## 3. Policy

### 3.1. Definitions

A **pet dog** relates to any dog that is privately owned in the community for companionship reasons, rather than as a support function that requires specific skills or training.

A **stray dog** is any dog that is not accompanied by their owner.

**Wellbeing dogs** is a dog used in a structured program under the guidance of a qualified handler to support student wellbeing. These animals do not hold the same legal status as Assistance Animals.

For information on Wellbeing and Engagement animals, please refer to the [Wellbeing and Engagement Animal policy](#) on PAL.

### 3.2. Pet Dogs

Sandringham 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.

### 3.3. Dogs Prohibited

Whilst Example 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.



The Principal has the authority to prohibit certain dogs from school grounds or modify this policy to ensure the safety and wellbeing of staff, students and members of our school community at any time.

### 3.4. 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.

## 4. Related Policies and Resources

Sandringham College Policies can be found on our school website: [Publications & Policies - School Policies - Strategic Plan - Sandringham College](#)

- Sandringham College Duty of Care Policy
- Sandringham College Visitors Policy
- [Wellbeing and Engagement Animals on PAL](#)

## 5. Policy Review and Approval

Policy Number	SC-OP-13	Last Approval Date	December 2025
Policy Owner	Sandringham College	Approved By	College Principal
Policy Reviewer	College Principal	Next Review Date	December 2028
Review Frequency	Document Availability	Policy Delivery	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Year <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Years <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 3 Years <input type="checkbox"/> As Required <input type="checkbox"/> n/a	<input type="checkbox"/> College Website <input type="checkbox"/> Student Compass <input type="checkbox"/> Parent Compass <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Staff Information Drive <input type="checkbox"/> Enrolment Pack	<input type="checkbox"/> Annual Staff Meeting <input type="checkbox"/> Annual Parent Meeting <input type="checkbox"/> Annual Student Meeting <input type="checkbox"/> Annual School Assembly <input type="checkbox"/> Staff Handbook/Manual <input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter <input type="checkbox"/> Staff DL	