



Dogs at School Policy

PURPOSE

To explain to our the Koo Wee Rup Primary School community the rules and procedures in place in relation to dogs being present our school grounds.

POLICY

Assistance dogs

Koo Wee Rup 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 the 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. The 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.

Koo Wee Rup Primary School understands that in some circumstances, students may require an assistance animal to attend school to help them to participate in their educational program. Koo Wee Rup 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 the school Principal.

Pet dogs

Koo Wee Rup Primary 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 Koo Wee Rup Primary School understands that many families in the 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 between the hours of 8:30am and 4:00pm even if on a lead or being carried. This includes puppies.

The Koo Wee Rup Primary School community is diverse, and may include people that are allergic or uncomfortable around dogs. The school is also conscious of the health hazards that may be posed by dogs, therefore families are asked to leave their pet dogs at home or to safely tether them outside school grounds when attending the school or school events.

Stray dogs

Unaccompanied or stray dogs sighted at Koo Wee Rup Primary School should be reported immediately to the school office. Any dog not on a lead or with an owner not within sight will be considered unaccompanied or stray. 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.



Dogs at School Policy

RELATED POLICIES AND RESOURCES

Duty of Care Policy

Visitors Policy

REVIEW PERIOD

This policy was last updated on 28th of May 2021 and is scheduled for review in May 2025.

This policy was approved by School Council on 15th of June 2021.