



DOGS POLICY



Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand the information in this policy, please contact mentone.girls.sc@education.vic.gov.au

PURPOSE

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

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.

POLICY

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.

Pet dogs

Mentone Girls' Secondary 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 Mentone Girls' Secondary 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 via the school website.

RELATED POLICIES AND RESOURCES

Information on related policies including *Duty of Care* and *Visitors policies* can be found on the College website:

<https://mgsc.vic.edu.au/our-college/policies>

For policy information on wellbeing and engagement animals, refer to the department's Wellbeing and Engagement Animals policy

POLICY REVIEW & APPROVAL

Policy last reviewed	July 2026
Approved by	Linda Brown, Principal
Next scheduled review date (3-4 years)	2030