



DUNMORE LANG COLLEGE

An Affiliated Residential College at Macquarie University

Dunmore Lang College

Student Residents' Companion / Support / Assistance Animals Policy

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Policy Title: **DUNMORE LANG COLLEGE STUDENT RESIDENTS'
COMPANION / SUPPORT / ASSISTANCE ANIMAL POLICY**

Approved by: Dr Alasdair Murrie-West, Principal, Dunmore Lang College

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1.0 OVERVIEW

Dunmore Lang College is required to provide all student residents with a comfortable and safe living environment within the College while attending the University. This requires the balancing of freedoms for current and future students with a view to maintaining the long-term quality and reputation of the College community, buildings, and facilities.

To support student wellbeing, Dunmore Lang College has adopted a limited Student Residents' Companion/ Support/ Assistance Animal Policy that enables student residents to have a verified support, companion, or assistance animal living in their room.

At the same time, we recognise there will also be student residents and staff who wish to avoid contact with animals and this is to be respected.

This policy is designed to protect both owners and other residents/ staff, as well as ensuring the animals receive responsible care.

The Student Residents' Companion/ Support / Assistance Animal Policy applies to all animals kept at Dunmore Lang College and will be strictly enforced.

By signing the Student Resident Companion Animal Agreement, the student resident agrees to abide by the Student Residents' Companion/ Support/ Assistance Animal Policy. Failure to adhere to the terms of this agreement will constitute a breach of their Accommodation Agreement and may result in fines or the termination of the Accommodation Agreement. In the event of termination, the student will be responsible for all associated costs.

2.0 POLICY

Permission to keep a Companion/ Support Animal is granted at the College's sole discretion and is subject to the strict adherence to all aspects of this Student Residents' Companion/ Support/ Assistance Animal Policy. Student residents must obtain the College's approval prior to arrival and submit a signed Companion/ Support Animal Agreement.

Companion/ Support Animals are only permitted in the Miller or Doust Wings (New Wing) private ensuite room or in shared ensuite rooms by agreement of both residents.

Only fully grown domesticated dogs or cats older than 12 weeks are permitted. Any breed or species prohibited by Dunmore Lang College or NSW legislation including any that increase the cost of insurance cover will not be allowed. Individual student residents are not permitted to have more than one animal.

All animals must be desexed.

In deciding on whether to approve a request to keep a dog, the College will take into account the dog's temperament and the arrangements made for care, training, and exercise.

Companion/ Support Animals are to be kept inside the student resident's room and not allowed to wander around the College. Dogs going in and out of rooms must be on a leash (no longer than 2 metres) and under control at all times. Animals are not allowed in internal shared spaces such as corridors, study rooms, Common Rooms or kitchenettes

and not permitted in the Dining Room with the exception of mobility or vision impairment dogs. Support animals are permitted in outdoor areas including courtyards.

Companion/ Support/ Assistance Animals cannot be kept or left unattended on porches, walkways, or entrances outside of the student resident's room. Only dogs may be left with access to decks (above ground level) to avoid potential escapes.

Food and water dishes must be kept inside the apartment and be regularly cleaned. Food should be stored in airtight containers to discourage rodents/pests.

Students are responsible for keeping all areas where pets are housed clean, safe, and free of parasites, including fleas.

Dog owners must immediately pick up and dispose of, in a sanitary manner, all dog waste in the main rubbish bin at the rear of the kitchen dock. For Guide dogs, a smaller bin may be used and emptied at least every 24 hours. To minimize the impact on grassed areas, the area where animals relieve themselves must be varied due to the high ammonia content in urine and faeces. Guide dogs are exempted, and College staff will manage this area.

Cat owners must place soiled cat litter in tied plastic bags and dispose of the bags in in the main rubbish bin at the rear of the kitchen dock at least three times per week. Cleaning staff are not available to assist with this.

All Companion/ Support/ Assistance Animals must receive proper veterinary care, including all appropriate inoculations, be clean and well-groomed, and must be given a healthy diet and exercised according to their needs. All animals must also be maintained in accordance with applicable state and local laws. Dogs and cats must wear identification tags at all times.

No pet is to be left alone in a room for a period longer than that which is appropriate in light of the individual needs of the individual pet. While this period may vary depending on the pet in question, in general, dogs should not be left alone longer than 6 hours and cats no longer than 8 hours.

When College staff have reasonable cause to believe a pet is unsupervised and it is either creating a disturbance or any other emergency situation appears to exist we will attempt to contact the student owner to remedy the situation. If we are unable to contact the student owner within a reasonable period, management may enter their room and make any necessary arrangements for the pet's care, including removing the pet and placing it in a temporary home, such as a boarding kennel. Any costs incurred will be deducted from Student's security deposit.

The student owner is responsible for ensuring their companion animal does not disturb or annoy other students or neighbouring properties. If a companion animal is determined to be disturbing others the student owner must remedy the situation immediately. A student resident who fails to remedy the situation after two warnings will receive a 14-day notice to remove the companion animal from the College. Failure to do so will be a breach of this policy and the Accommodation Agreement. In the event of termination, the student owner will be responsible for all associated costs.

Student residents are responsible for, and must pay for, all damages or injuries caused by their companion animal.