



<u>DUFFERIN-PEEL CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD</u> <u>POLICY</u>	
POLICY NUMBER:	P-4010
SUBJECT:	Use of Guide Dogs, Service Dogs, and Service Animals
REFERENCE:	P-0012 : Integrated Accessibility Standards GAP0013 Use of Guide Dogs, Service Dogs, and Service Animals
EFFECTIVE DATE:	January 28, 2020

"Wolves and sheep will live together in peace, and leopards will lie down with young goats. Calves and lion cubs will feed together, and little children will take care of them."

Isaiah 11:6

1. The Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board (DPCDSB) is committed to the learning of all students and provides a range of differentiated placements, programs, and interventions to support student success. It is the policy of the DPCDSB, in accordance with its obligations pursuant to the Ontario *Human Rights Code*, to provide individualized accommodation to students with disabilities to enable them to have meaningful access to education services.
2. In addition to human and technological resources, some students may require a trained guide dog, service dog, or service animal to support medical, emotional, and/or behavioural needs in order to access their education equitably. Furthermore, some staff and visitors to DPCDSB may be accompanied by a guide dog, service dog, or service animal. This policy outlines the principles governing consideration of the admittance and integration of a guide dog, service dog, or service animal in the school and DPCDSB properties.
3. Pursuant to the *Education Act* and regulations, a school building is not a place to which the public is customarily admitted. Therefore, the *Accessibility Standards for Customer Service* made under the *Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act* (AODA), do *not* apply to a student's use of a guide dog, service dog, or service animal when accessing education services in school buildings.
4. The process of accommodating the student through the use of a guide dog, service dog, or service animal shall consider:
 - a. the competing human rights of other students and of staff;
 - b. the impact of the guide dog, service dog, or service animal on the learning environment;
 - c. the health and safety of all individuals who are or might be in the school, on school grounds, or at a school-related event.
5. The DPCDSB shall retain data regarding the requests for guide dogs, service dogs, and service animals as outlined in General Administrative Procedure (GAP) GAP0011: *Use of Guide Dogs, Service Dogs, and Service Animals*.

6. In keeping with respecting the human dignity of all and in full compliance with the *Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005*, and the *Ontario Human Rights Code*, visitors to DPCDSB properties who are accompanied by a guide dog, service dog, or service animal will be permitted on the premises generally accessible to the public with a guide dog, service dog, or service animal, and may keep the guide dog, service dog, or service animal with them unless the guide dog, service dog, or service animal is otherwise excluded by law from the premises.

References

Human Rights Code, RSO 1990, c.H.19
Education Act, RSO 1990, c.E2, s. 170(1), s.265(1); O. Reg. 298, s.11
PPM 163 School Board Policies on Service Animals
J.F. v. Waterloo Catholic District School Board, 2017 HRTO 1121 (CanLII)
Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005, SO 2005, c.11
Blind Persons' Rights Act, RSO 1990, c.B7,
Dog Owners' Liability Act, RSO 1990, c.D16
Health Protection and Promotion Act, RSO 1990, c.H7
Food Safety and Quality Act 2001, SO 2001, c.20
Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, RSO, 1990, c. M.56