

## Rowville Primary School Seeing Eye Dog Policy

### Background

Part of being a global citizen is that students make contributions to society. Helping to raise and socialise a Seeing Eye Dog will improve the life of someone struggling with a vision impairment. This will connect with our learning around 'How the World Works.' The other benefit of partnering with Seeing Eye Dogs Australia is that studies have shown that a dog in the classroom promotes student wellbeing and engagement.

### Purpose

To ensure that Rowville Primary School complies with codes relating to the responsible care of a Seeing Eye Dog.

To present our students with an authentic learning opportunity about disability.

### Guidelines

The Seeing Eye Dog remains the property of Seeing Eye Dogs Australia and they are responsible for the care and wellbeing of the dog.

A puppy carer who has been approved by Seeing Eye Dogs Australia will have the day to day responsibility for the dog.

The Seeing Eye Dog may wear a training vest.

The dog's training will be shared with the whole school community.

### Implementation

The Seeing Eye Dog will be based in the classroom of the puppy carer.

The dog will be housed in a crate that is provided by Seeing Eye Dogs Australia.

Students will be taught protocols for interacting with a service dog.

The Seeing Eye Dog will have a roped off area to access during recess and lunchtimes.

### Related Information

Have students developed empathy and awareness of disability?

Have students developed greater emotional regulation through participating in the Seeing Eye Dog program?

Have we been successful in training a future service dog?

### Policy Review and Approval

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|----------------------------|---|
| Policy last reviewed       | 27 <sup>th</sup> July 2021  |
| Approved by                | School Council  |
| Next scheduled review date | This policy will be reviewed as part of the school's three-year review cycle and will be reviewed in June 2024. |