



Directorate of Estates and Campus Services



Use of Campus Grounds

Dogs Policy

Version 3.0
June 2020

1. Contact Numbers

Emergency contact details

In the event of an emergency contact the Emergency Service on (9) 999 and then contact the University Security Services Team 01904 32 3333 (Ext 3333)

Contact details

For general queries, please contact the Facilities Helpdesk on 01904 325555 (Ext 5555) or email fm-helpdesk@york.ac.uk

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2. Introduction

The following document describes the University of York's policy regarding the use of campus and other areas leased, or owned by The University of York for purposes of exercising, or other recreation with dogs. Sections on dog fouling do not apply to designated assistance dogs. This document should be read in conjunction with HR Policy and Guidance Note "Animals (Pets) in the workplace." Both our East and West campus have areas designated for wildlife and particularly birds. A large area, designated "The designed areas of the west campus" is registered under the Historic Buildings and Ancient Monuments Act 1953 within the Register of Historic Parks and Gardens by Historic England for its special historic interest

3. Ownership & the Law

Responsible Ownership

A small minority of dog owners do not take their responsibilities for their dog seriously. Some dog mess is not cleared up and a small number of dogs roam out of control. This can be annoying and extremely frightening, particularly as many members of the University live in regions of the world with different perspectives of dogs and where dogs routinely carry fatal diseases such as rabies.

Dogs not under control can cause the death of rare and protected species of birds and other wildlife, especially in breeding seasons. The University requires that dog owners are responsible and carry disposable bags to ensure they clean up after their dog, keep dogs under control at all times, and keep dogs out of dog restricted areas including nature conservation areas and playing fields. Estates Services provide and support the maintenance of specific toilet areas used by assistance dogs living with members of the University, who have agreed with Accommodation Services that a dog will remain on campus. Similar facilities will be provided as necessary for non-resident staff members who own assistance dogs. Residents may not keep any pet, including animals, birds, reptiles, insects or fish in individual or family residential accommodation or within the residence grounds.

Legislation

The Dogs Fouling of Land Act 1996 which is currently enacted in York will be replaced by the Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005 as it is adopted by the City of York Council. At this time the University will apply for appropriate designation of playing fields and the general campus Members of the public are permitted access to University grounds in accordance with the Campus Rules and on public footpaths. Acceptance of the Campus Rules is deemed a condition of entry to the campus.

4. University Security Teams

The University security team can be contacted on +44 (0) 1904 324444 to report anyone permitting dog fouling or dogs out of control. It's useful if you can provide a description of the dog and its owner, the location where they were walking and the time of the incident. Civil action may be taken against persistently unreasonable dog owners. Patrolling security officers usually carry bags to allow owners to remove dog mess. Bagged dog mess tied up tightly (ideally double bagged) can be placed in general litter bins or at home if there isn't a bin immediately available.

5. Revisions

Issue	Date	Revision	By
1	June 2012		KW
1	September 2013	Clarification of restriction on access within non –accommodation buildings	KW
2.0	September 2018	Includes reference to HR Policy & Historic England listing of West Campus	KW
3.0	June 2020	Document reformatted	KW