

Animals on Campus

Definition and Criteria for an Assistance Dog

An assistance dog is a dog trained to aid or assist an individual with a disability. An assistance dog is not a pet and should be treated as an auxiliary aid.

For the purpose of this policy, an assistance dog is one that has been specifically trained to assist disabled people and has been qualified by one of the organisations registered as a member of Assistance Dogs UK or an equivalent organisation in another country.

Accredited Assistance dogs are:

- Highly trained by a member organisation of [Assistance Dogs UK](#) (ADUK).
- Have formal identification in the form of a harness, branded dog jacket, lead, ID tag on dogs' collar.
- A yellow ADUK branded ID book. This will contain information about the owner and their dog, details of the training organisation and who trained the dog and their owner.
- Have been trained to behave well in public.
- Have safe and reliable temperaments.
- Are healthy and do not constitute a hygiene risk observed over a considerable period of time.
- Are fully toilet trained.
- Are regularly checked by experienced veterinarians.
- Are accompanied by a disabled handler who has been trained how to work alongside their assistance dog.

Currently the following organisations are registered full members of ADUK:

- Canine Partners
- Dog A.I.D
- Dogs for Good
- Guide Dogs
- Hearing Dogs for deaf people
- Medical detection Dogs
- The Seeing Dogs alliance