

## Shuttlewood Clarke Foundation Dogs Policy

### Overview

The Shuttlewood Clarke Foundation generally prohibits individuals from bringing dogs inside its buildings, including the house at Ulverscroft Grange (incorporating the Tearoom), Ulverscroft Manor and the Activity Centre. Dogs are permitted in the grounds at Ulverscroft Grange and well-behaved dogs on leads are welcome in the Charity Shops but must not be tied up outside or left unattended. Dogs are **not** permitted anywhere at Ulverscroft Manor.

The Foundation recognises that a dog kept and used by a disabled person (as defined by the Equality Act 2010) or a person with a long-term medical condition wholly or mainly for the purpose of assisting that person to carry out day to day activities (an “Assistance Dog”) will require access to the Foundation’s buildings and wider estate.

### Assistance Dogs

Assistance Dogs are highly trained working dogs, performing tasks to assist disabled people or those living with a long-term medical condition. Examples of Assistance Dogs include guide dogs, hearing dogs, autism assistance dogs, epilepsy seizure alert dogs and trauma support dogs.

Assistance Dogs are usually trained by member organisations of Assistance Dogs UK (ADUK) or by an equivalent organisation and will have formal identification in the form of:

- An ID tag on the dog’s collar
- A harness
- An organisation-specific branded dog jacket or harness.

All ADUK member trained Assistance Dogs will wear a harness, jacket or an ID tag, however, it is not a legal requirement.

People who have an Assistance Dog from an ADUK member organisation will also have a yellow ADUK branded Identification Booklet. This booklet has been designed to support Assistance Dog owners with their access to goods, facilities and services as defined by the Equality Act 2010. The ID Booklet contains information about the owner and their dog and details of the training organisation that trained the dog and its owner.

Assistance Dogs may be registered with the Assistance Dog Registry and will have online or physical identification documentation.

Assistance Dogs may be owner-trained. They must meet the same high standards of behaviour as a professionally trained Assistance Dog and be able to perform tasks that assist their handler’s specific needs. It is the responsibility of the handler to ensure that the dog is well-behaved in public, responds to commands reliably, and does not pose a threat or nuisance to others.

Assistance Dogs:

- Will not wander freely around the premises
- Will sit or lie quietly on the floor next to their owner and are trained to go to the toilet on command and so are unlikely to foul in a public place

Staff, volunteers and visitors should not:

- Touch or feed an Assistance Dog, unless invited to do so by its owner
- Deliberately distract or startle an Assistance Dog
- Separate or attempt to separate an Assistance Dog from the person using the Assistance Dogs service

### **Assistance Dogs and the Equality Act 2010**

The Equality Act lays out that in relation to protecting the rights of a disabled people, an assistance dog means:

- (a) a dog which has been trained to guide a blind person;
- (b) a dog which has been trained to assist a deaf person;
- (c) a dog which has been trained by a prescribed charity to assist a disabled person who has a disability that consists of epilepsy or otherwise affects the person's mobility, manual dexterity, physical coordination or ability to lift, carry or otherwise move everyday objects;
- (d) a dog of a prescribed category which has been trained to assist a disabled person who has a disability (other than one falling within paragraph (c)) of a prescribed kind.

### **Emotional Support Animals**

An Emotional Support Animal offers comfort and companionship by being present and does not require any specialist training. They are not referenced in law and service providers are not legally obliged to allow access to someone with a therapy and emotional support animal. They are different to Assistance Dogs and are **not** permitted in any of the Foundation's buildings or in the grounds at Ulverscroft Manor.

Emotional support animals and their owners do not have the same legal rights as Assistance Dogs and reasonable adjustments are not required.

Assistance Dog owners should be in a position to evidence that their dogs are certificated Assistance Dogs – and **not** pets with a therapeutic or emotional support purpose.

### **Foundation Premises**

All dogs must be kept on a lead at all times and must remain under the control of their owners. Dogs must not be allowed to run free especially where there is traffic, other visitors or other animals. Dog owners must make sure that their dogs do not cause harm or injury to others or cause damage to any Foundation property. All incidents must be reported to a member of staff at the Foundation as soon as possible.

All dog owners must take responsibility for the clean-up after their dog, with the exception of registered blind people who are not expected to clean-up after their Assistance Dog; the Foundation does, however, expect that anyone accompanying the blind person will do so.

### **Ulverscroft Grange**

Assistance Dogs only are permitted in the house at Ulverscroft Grange (incorporating the Tearoom). Well-behaved dogs on leads are welcome in the Charity Shops but must not be left unattended at any time. There is a dog-friendly field walk with dog waste bins provided. Assistance Dogs are also welcome on the golf buggy providing that they are kept under their owners' control and do not cause a distraction to the buggy driver.

All dogs are allowed on the decking area outside of the Tearoom and in the courtyard.

### **Ulverscroft Manor and Activity Centre**

Assistance Dogs only are permitted in the house at Ulverscroft Manor and in the Activity Centre.

### **Yew Trail and other Woodland at Ulverscroft Manor (including the Yurt)**

The Yew Trail paths in the east and west woodland are primarily set up for educational purposes. Whilst they are a lovely place to visit, it is **not** a dog-walking facility. Therefore, only Assistance Dogs are permitted to enter upon the Yew Trail paths and other woodland areas. No other dogs are allowed anywhere in the grounds at Ulverscroft Manor.

### **Misbehaviour**

Preventing and correcting a dog's behaviour is the owner's responsibility. The Foundation reserves the right to remove or bar entry to any dog when its behaviour poses a direct threat to the health and safety of others.

### **Document Owner**

This policy is monitored by the Principal Manager on a regular basis and will be formally reviewed annually.

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