

SOUTHWARK

◆ CATHEDRAL ◆

DOGS IN SOUTHWARK CATHEDRAL POLICY

Introduction

For many families and individuals their dog is an important part of their household. Southwark Cathedral welcomes well-behaved dogs to the Cathedral, but in doing so, the Cathedral has responsibility to ensure that the safety of staff, volunteers, visitors and Hodge the cat is not compromised, and that the fabric of the building is protected.

Summary

The Dogs in Southwark Cathedral Policy outlines the rules that must be followed to allow dogs admittance into the Cathedral, as well as circumstances in which we may ask dogs to leave the site.

Who this policy applies to

The Dogs in Southwark Cathedral Policy applies to dog-owning visitors, as well as staff and volunteers who are responsible for implementing the policy.

Policy

1. Well behaved dogs under the close supervision of their owners are welcome in the Cathedral, providing they are always kept on a short lead. Dogs will not be admitted to services, apart from assistance dogs.
2. The Cathedral is a living, working church and owners are asked to appreciate the needs of those praying and worshipping in the building and that not everyone is a dog lover. It is also the home of Hodge, our Cathedral cat so please avoid contact between Hodge and your dog.
3. Dogs and their owners are welcome in the Cathedral Café.
4. Welcome desk staff may alert the vergers when a dog is welcomed at the entrance so that Hodge may be located and if necessary moved to the sacristy.
5. Welcome desk staff may contact the Duty Verger for reassurance if there is a school group in the Cathedral or if they have any concerns about a dog. The Duty Verger will make a final decision if necessary.
6. Each dog should have one adult carer.

7. Due to archaeological remains we ask that dogs are kept off the grassed areas in the churchyard.
8. Any dog waste should be cleaned up thoroughly by the owner. If there are problems cleaning up after a dog, a member of staff should be informed. Bagged dog waste should be disposed of in bins on Montague Close or in the Millennium courtyard.
9. Owners whose dog causes a disturbance, upsets someone or makes them feel nervous may be asked to leave.
10. Only guide and assistance dogs are permitted to attend events such as guided tours, concerts, dinners, performances and services.
11. A dog water bowl will be provided in the Millennium Courtyard and dog treats and emergency poo bags at the Welcome Desk.

Reviewed by:	Chapter
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