



University of
Nottingham
UK | CHINA | MALAYSIA

Health and Safety

Management Arrangement

SAF-MAN-PET



University of
Nottingham
UK | CHINA | MALAYSIA

Health and Safety Department

Approved
Document



Document Control

Document Details	
Reference	SAF-POL-PET
Title	Pets on Campus Policy
Version Number	1
Approval Date	April 2022 (peer review)
Issue Date	April 2022
Review Date	April 2025
Status	Published
Author	Sarah Watson

Document Revision History				
Revision	Date	Nature of Revision	Prepared by	Approved by
<No>				

The Health and Safety Office will maintain the official version of this document. Before referring to any printed copies, please ensure that they are up-to-date.

Contents

	Page Number
1 Scope	
2 Policy Statement	
3 Responsibilities	
4 Exceptions	
5 Guidance	

Pets in University Buildings - Policy

1. Scope

This policy applies to all UK campuses and to staff, students or other members of the university community considering bringing a pet into any university building, both residential and non-residential.

2. Policy Statement

It is the policy of the University that no pets are permitted in university buildings. This includes individual offices as well as all work and communal areas. See exceptions below.

3. Responsibilities

It is the responsibility of the Head of Business Unit, with the assistance of their Health and Safety Coordinator, to ensure this policy is applied to all university buildings or parts of buildings that are designated to the business unit.

4. Exceptions

The university makes exception in the following cases:

- The use of guide dogs by the visually impaired or other 'assistance' animals as agreed with appropriate university management. This may include situations where it has been agreed for reasons of wellbeing that it is appropriate for a pet to be brought into university buildings. The guidance points below must be taken into account.
- The School of Veterinary Medicine and Science controlled activity or similar that has been suitably risk assessed and approved by the local senior manager.
- Personal residences if permitted by the UoN Accommodation Office.

5. Guidance

The following points have been taken into account when deciding upon the university's policy:

- A pet may impede general safety in circulation areas (animals can be unpredictable in their movement and are not easily visible in congested situations). Animals may impede emergency evacuation of a building.
- A pet might create problems with maintaining good hygiene
- A pet might cause distracting noise (animals may behave unpredictably, be distressed or over-excited)
- A pet, even the seemingly best behaved, may display antisocial behaviour that could put University members and visitors at risk of injury (e.g. dogs may exhibit unpredictable, aggressive behaviour with strangers or in strange situations)
- University staff, students or visitors may suffer ill health issues such as allergic reactions (people can be, or become, sensitised to animals (their fur, excretions, etc.) and this can result in serious symptoms). They should not have to be exposed during their work/study.
- The regular presence of an animal in a location is likely to add to the cleaning burden of domestic staff (animals can create extra cleaning tasks and there is the issue of toileting in a suitable location)
- The university would not wish to condone any poor treatment of animals and it would not be appropriate for staff or students to leave a pet unsupervised in a work area.
- In an emergency evacuation situation, staff may seek to return to their pet in the event of a fire, rather than leaving building by nearest exit.

The above list is not exhaustive and the points are made predominantly from a health and safety perspective.

There may be other organisational reasons to either exclude or permit pets that the university may apply. For further advice, please contact Human Resources (staff) or Campus Life (student community). Insurance issues could arise if this policy is not adhered to.