

WORKING WITH...

AN ASSISTANCE DOG



Many people are partnered with assistance dogs, such as guide dogs, hearing dogs for deaf people or assistance dogs for people with disabilities. It is quite easy to recognise what type of assistance dog a person is using by checking the table below:

Guide dogs	Partnered with blind or partially sighted people	A qualified guide dog can usually be identified by their white harness with fluorescent yellow strips
Hearing dogs for deaf people	Partnered with deaf or hard of hearing people	A qualified hearing dog will usually wear a burgundy jacket
Dogs for Disabled People	Partnered with people with physical disabilities or young people on the autistic spectrum	<p>Qualified dogs for people with disabilities will usually wear a fluorescent yellow jacket</p> <p>Qualified dogs for younger people on the autistic spectrum will usually wear a blue jacket</p>
Canine Partners	Partnered with adults with a physical disability	Qualified Canine Partner dogs usually wear a purple jacket

Support Dogs	Support Dogs are dogs owned by an adult with a physically disability that has been trained to provide support for their owner	Support Dogs usually wear a blue jacket
Dog A.I.D. assistance dogs	An owner's dog that has been trained to assistance level for an owner with a physical disability	Dog A.I.D. Assistance Dogs usually wear a red jacket

Working with an assistance dog

Where a person is partnered with any type of assistance dog, accommodating the dog would be considered a 'reasonable adjustment' in terms of making the environment accessible. There are a few things to think about if someone is bringing an assistance dog to an appointment, meeting, or other type of event. Below are just some examples, but as with all adjustments it is important not to make assumptions about what a person may need:

- A larger meeting room to allow space for a larger dog to move around
- A separate space for an assistance dog to rest, including the provision of a water bowl

- Clear spaces under the table – many Assistance Dogs are trained to lie under the table when their partner is not using their support. Therefore, it is important to ensure that there is space free of empty chairs and trailing wires underneath the table

Other things to consider are:

- An assistance dog is at work and should not be interfered with
- Do not be tempted to pet or stroke the assistance dog
- Do not feed the assistance dog

Only with express permission from the owner should you consider doing any of these.

This guide can also be provided in Braille, audio cassette disk, large print or other languages on request by phoning 01935 385240

Este folheto está disponível em Português por telefone 01935 385240

Ta broszura jest dostępna w języku polskim, poprzez kontakt telefoniczny 01935 385240

Эта листовка доступна в русском языке, по телефону 01935 385240

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