

Lifeline K9's Assistance Dog Escalator Safety Policy

The safety of assistance dogs is our highest priority, and extra care must be taken when using escalators. Improper use can result in serious injury, so all handlers must follow the guidelines below.

Training Requirements

- Dogs must never be taken on an escalator unless they have been specifically trained to use one safely.
- Training must include controlled exposure to escalators in a safe, positive manner to ensure the dog is confident and comfortable.
- Handlers must be able to guide their dog properly onto and off the escalator, ensuring paws are positioned safely on the step.

Boots & Paw Protection

- Dogs must be desensitised to wearing boots before using an escalator to prevent discomfort or stress.
- Boots must be properly fitted and secure to protect the dog's paws from getting caught in the escalator mechanism.

Alternative Options

If a dog has not been trained for escalator use or is uncomfortable, handlers must use stairs, elevators, or seek assistance from staff to find a safer route.

Enforcement of Safety Measures

Handlers who do not follow this policy and put their dog at risk may be subject to removal from the program. The safety and wellbeing of the assistance dog must always come first.