

Southeast Kansas Humane Society

Dog Meet & Greet Policy

The Southeast Kansas Humane Society prioritizes the safety, well-being, and long-term success of every adoption. Meet & greets are an important tool in helping ensure compatibility between dogs, families, and existing household pets.

This policy outlines when meet & greets are **recommended**, when they may be **required**, and how they are conducted.

Meet & Greets With Existing Household Dogs

The SEK Humane Society **strongly recommends** that adopters who currently have dog(s) in their household participate in a meet & greet prior to finalizing an adoption.

While meet & greets are no longer universally required, they remain an important opportunity to:

- Observe initial dog-to-dog interactions
- Identify potential behavioral concerns or stress signals
- Provide adopters with guidance on introductions and transitions
- Increase the likelihood of a successful, long-term placement

Staff Discretion & Right to Require a Meet & Greet

SEKHS staff reserve the **full right to require a meet & greet** in any situation, including but not limited to:

- Dogs with known behavioral, socialization, or reactivity concerns
- High-energy or large-breed dogs
- Situations where staff identify potential compatibility concerns
- Inconsistencies between the adoption application and in-person discussion

Location & Format of Meet & Greets

Meet & greets may be conducted in a variety of settings based on what is safest and most appropriate for the dogs involved, including:

- On-site at the SEKHS shelter
- In a designated outdoor or neutral space
- At a local park or similar neutral location, as approved by staff

The format and location will be determined by SEKHS staff based on the individual dog's needs and behavior.

Right to Refuse Adoption

SEKHS reserves the right to **approve or deny any adoption** based on:

- Observations made during a meet & greet
- The behavior and body language of the dogs involved
- Concerns for the safety or welfare of any animal or person

Our decisions are made with the animal's best interest as the top priority.