

## School Dog Risk Assessment

Identify the hazards	Who/what may be harmed	Likelihood of occurrence	Severity of harm	Overall risk	Actions/control measures	Person responsible
Allergic reactions to dog fur or dander	Pupils, staff, visitors	Low	Medium	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dog breed selected to reduce allergy risk: F1B Cavapoo (3/4 poodle mix)</li> <li>• Medical/allergy information collected for pupils</li> <li>• Individual risk assessments completed where required</li> <li>• Pupils wash/sanitise hands before and after contact</li> <li>• Reasonable adjustments made as required</li> <li>• Dog not taken to food preparation areas</li> <li>• Regular grooming and cleaning schedule</li> </ul>	Inclusion Lead  Supervising staff
Bites or scratches from dog.	Pupils, staff, visitors	Low	Medium	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dog temperament assessed and suitable for school environment</li> <li>• Dog trained and accustomed to children</li> <li>• Dog always supervised by designated adult handler</li> <li>• Dog never left alone with pupils</li> <li>• Clear pupil behaviour rules taught and reinforced</li> <li>• Structured, planned interactions (e.g., small groups)</li> <li>• Dog removed immediately if showing signs of stress</li> </ul>	Supervising Staff
Jumping up	Pupils, staff, visitors	Medium	Low	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Remind pupils of 'Four paws to the floor' before interaction</li> <li>• If dog jumps up, handler or pupil use simple command 'Poppy sit'</li> </ul>	

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Emotional distress caused by presence of dog.	Pupils, staff, visitors	Medium	Low	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parent/carers and pupils informed in advance of direct interaction</li> <li>• Gradual exposure to dog</li> <li>• Staff/pupils can opt out of contact or observe at a distance</li> <li>• Classes informed in advance if dog class visits</li> <li>• Alternative arrangements provided where necessary</li> <li>• Signage in main office and Inclusion Room indicating school dog presence</li> </ul>	Inclusion Team to identify pupils for visit/contact, gain consent from families. Staff to agree with pupil/adult beforehand level of contact and discussion about what to expect.
Transmission of bacteria or illness	Pupils and staff	Low	Low	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dog fully vaccinated, flea and worm treated</li> <li>• Regular veterinary health checks</li> <li>• No access to school food preparation area (except staffroom)</li> <li>• Immediate cleaning of accidents</li> <li>• Handwashing/sanitising after contact</li> <li>• Discourage licking</li> </ul>	Supervising Staff
Negative pupil behaviour	Dog and handler	Low	Low	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Children informed of expected behaviour: Ready, Safe and Kind</li> <li>• Handler always present</li> <li>• Staff remove children who misbehave or upset dog or show signs of distress</li> <li>• Increased adult supervision for pupils with high SEN needs</li> <li>• Staff to end session if required</li> </ul>	Supervising Staff
Slips or falls caused by excited or agitated dogs	Pupils, staff, visitors, handler, those with	Low	Low	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dog and handler will have completed dog training</li> <li>• Space carefully considered for safe movement</li> <li>• Dog temperament and needs of pupils assessed before sessions</li> </ul>	Inclusion Lead Supervising Staff Dog Handler

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	a fear of dogs					
Overstimulation, fatigue or distress to the dog.	School dog	Low	Medium	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Time with children carefully managed</li> <li>• Quiet, secure rest area provided with fresh water</li> <li>• Dog not forced to interact</li> <li>• Handler monitors stress signals</li> <li>• Dog removed from session if required</li> <li>• Regular veterinary care maintained</li> <li>• Limit number of pupils in direct contact</li> <li>• Rest area temperature controlled</li> </ul>	Dog handler Supervising Staff Inclusion lead
Trip hazard from equipment or dog movement.	Pupils, staff, visitors.	Low	Low	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lead controlled by handler or removed at free roaming times</li> <li>• Bedding positioned away from walkways</li> <li>• Water bowls placed in low-traffic areas</li> <li>• Pupils instructed to walk calmly</li> <li>• Room layout assessed by handler</li> </ul>	Dog handler Inclusion Lead
Damage caused to school materials, equipment and the school site	School dog	Low	Low	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dog remains on a lead at times when free roaming not been permitted</li> <li>• Dog kept in room with closed doors to prevent unsupervised access</li> <li>• Handlers bring suitable toys</li> <li>• Areas cleared where possible before dogs visit</li> </ul>	Dog handler Supervising staff Inclusion Lead