



Dog in School risk assessment

Stoborough CE Primary School

The aim of introducing a school dog.

- To have a dog that the children can learn how to care for, interact safely around and also benefit their social and emotional development

Children will learn the principles of good pet ownership and be taught how to handle dogs safely and responsibly; they will take great enjoyment from interaction with the dog.

Prior to purchasing Auggie Mrs Murray visited the home of the puppy and the dog's mother to ensure that the temperament of the puppy and its mother was suitable for interaction with children. Auggie will live with Mrs Murray in her home at her own expense and be introduced to the school environment and the children gradually. There are no diseases that could be caught from the dog as he will be kept up-to-date with immunisations including rabies, and worming treatment is in line with European vet guidelines. A register of his annual health check will be kept both by Mrs Murray and the vet's surgery. It is accepted that interacting with animals is not appropriate for all children but that for some it has the potential to provide many positive benefits. Any parent who does not wish their child to interact with the Auggie is invited to write to inform Mrs Murray of their wishes. This risk assessment will be reviewed annually and the impact of a school dog will be evaluated by the governing body and senior leadership team.

Significant Hazards and Associated Risks	Those who might be harmed	Residual Risk Rating (H / M / L)	Control Measures:
Those hazards which may result in serious harm or affect several people	Persons at risk from the significant hazards identified		Controls, including relevant sources of guidance and actions to be taken to minimise risks
Dog getting over excited when interacting with children.	Child/staff knocked to ground Child/staff scratched by dog Child/staff bitten by dog	L L M	The dog will always be in the care of a responsible adult and will never be allowed to freely roam the school premises unsupervised. Children will not be left with the dog unsupervised. During the School day, the dog will be on a lead when he is out of the head's office, except when he is

			<p>undergoing structured training with his primary trainer or is supervised in an enclosed area.</p> <p>The dog will be trained not to jump up or bite the children.</p> <p>Pupils will be taught how to read dog behaviour and the impact of their actions. Education of this nature will continually be given to children in whole- school worship, specific workshops from outside professionals, including the Blue Cross / Dog Trust, in class time and PSHE lessons.</p> <p>Pupils will be taught what to do to prevent the dog from chasing them. (i.e. stand still with arms by their side – ‘ tall like a tree’)</p> <p>The dog will attend the groomers regularly to make sure his claws are kept short and will be walked on concrete/tarmac to keep them trimmed.</p> <p>Mrs Murray and dog will undergo formal training from the age of 10 weeks with an experienced local dog trainer.</p> <p>All staff will have been introduced to the dog and the expectations.</p>
<p>Keeping safe when dog walking / mile run</p>	<p>Child/staff knocked to ground</p> <p>Child/staff scratched by dog</p> <p>Child/staff bitten by dog</p>	<p>L</p> <p>L</p> <p>M</p>	<p>A member of staff will always have school dog on the lead and have responsibility to ensure that they have control of him.</p> <p>Children, in small groups, may walk the school dog with a member of staff. Children are reminded how to keep safe crossing the road and are supervised at all times by the member of staff. (Permission to walk offsite will be gained from parents/carers beforehand).</p> <p>The member of staff will pick up any dog excrement and will remind children of the importance of washing hands on return to school.</p> <p>Children will be given the choice if they would like to stroke the school dog and or feed the dog a treat and are shown how to do this safely, with a flat hand. They will be reminded on return to school to wash their hands.</p> <p>Smile mile run – the school dog may be taken out on the lead to run the daily mile with a member of staff and will be supervised at all times. The children will be reminded of how to behave safely around the school dog.</p>
<p>The dog being a tripping hazard</p>	<p>Child/ staff/parent/ visitor</p>	<p>L</p> <p>L</p>	<p>All members of school community to be vigilant to look where they are walking to avoid tripping over the dog.</p>

<p>The dog gets loose from office area,</p>	<p>Child/staff knocked to ground</p> <p>Child/staff scratched by dog</p> <p>Child/staff bitten by dog</p>	<p>L</p> <p>M</p>	<p>The dog to be on a short lead when walking around school with a member of staff.</p> <p>The head's office is a big enough space for the dog to be happy and safe in and if he needs to be contained for a short period of the day.</p> <p>If the dog does get loose from the head's office, staff will call for a designated staff member who will come and put the dog back in the headteacher's room.</p> <p>There are six members of staff who will be called upon in the event of the dog getting loose or if he needs attention at any other time, they are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mrs Murray (Head Teacher) 2. Mrs Hallisey (Deputy Head) 3. Miss Abrahams (School Office) 4. Mrs Spicer (Senior Leadership Team) 5. Mrs Derrick (Senior Leadership Team) 6. Mr Saxton (Site Manager)
<p>Dog hair (dander) Saliva/ urine causing allergies</p>	<p>Children/staff have allergic reaction</p>	<p>L</p> <p>M risk to known persons with allergens.</p>	<p>The school dog is a cocker spaniel which is a moderate moulting breed. To reduce the chance of an allergic reaction, parents have been asked to inform the school of any known allergies prior to introduction of the dog to school. A list of any children who should not interact with the dog will be kept by the head teacher/ teachers and office staff.</p> <p>Staff members will also be asked to inform HT of any allergies.</p> <p>Fully supervised, children will have the opportunity to interact with the dog as they wish and those with allergies will be able to opt out of interaction.</p> <p>Children will be taught to wash their hands after active participation with the dog. Wounds on exposed skin will be covered.</p>
<p>Children catching disease from the dog.</p>	<p>Children/staff contract diseases that can be carried by dogs</p>	<p>L</p>	<p>Should the dog defecate on the school site a member of staff will clear this up immediately and dispose of it in a safe manner. Poo bags will be carried by staff member walking the dog.</p> <p>All immunisations will be kept up-to-date in accordance with European Pet Passport scheme and a register of this is kept by Mrs Murray.</p>

			<p>Flea treatment will be carried out at monthly intervals. Worming treatment is carried out in line with European Vet guidelines, at 3 monthly intervals.</p> <p>If the dog is sick he will not come into school until he is better.</p> <p>The dog will never go into a food preparation area and/ or the kitchen.</p>
Financial cost of the dog's upkeep	School unable to afford ongoing cost of the dog's day-to-day upkeep or medical bills	L	<p>The dog is the financial responsibility of Mrs Murray. She is financially responsible for all his care and day-to-day costs.</p> <p>The dog is the responsibility of Mrs Murray outside of school hours.</p> <p>The dog may be trained as a therapy dog. If this is the case, then the school may pay a contribution towards these additional training costs.</p> <p>.</p>
Claim is made against school re: behaviour of the dog	School not adequately covered financially	L	Mrs Murray will insure the dog's medical needs. Liability insurance will be held through PetGuard and will be renewed annually. The certificates are kept in the school office.
Fire Alarm	Who has responsibility to remove dog from the building	M	Dog signed in as a member of staff so fire marshals know when he is on site.
Noise / Barking	Pupils who will be distracted by the noise.	L	Cocker spaniels are bred to be sociable dogs and are often used as therapy dogs as they are known to be good with children. The dog has been introduced to children from birth so is used to a noisy environment, therefore reducing the chance of him barking.
Dog Phobia	Distress caused by close proximity to dog	L	<p>Parents have been asked to inform the school if their child is scared to be in close contact with the dog.</p> <p>Parents will be offered a programme of support for child to help overcome aversion.</p> <p>Parents also offered the option of their child having no close contact. A list of any children who should not interact with the dog will be kept by the office staff.</p> <p>Visitors advised dog is in the head's office and removed if requested. Notice in school entrance and noted on school website.</p>
Date completed:	November 2020		
Date to be reviewed	November 2021		