



WARRINGTON

Borough Council

THERAPY DOG RISK ASSESSMENT

Directorate: Family and Wellbeing	Location: Newchurch Primary School	Date of Assessment: March 2021	Review Date: March 2022
Name of Assessor: John Duckett Janine Dowling	Position of Assessor: Deputy Head School Business Manager	Signature: <i>J Duckett</i> <i>J Dowling</i>	

Title of Task: Therapy Dog Risk Assessment

Hazard	Persons at Risk	Potential Harm	Existing Control Measures	Risk Rating (H/M/L)	Further Action Required	Residual Risk (H/M/L)
Hygiene	Pupils, staff	Coming into contact with dog faeces.	Dog walked and toileted before coming into school. If needed, any faeces will be cleaned up and removed in a sanitary method by aligned staff	L		L

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			member.			
Hygiene	Pupils, staff	Contact with dog sick.	If the dog is unwell, she will not come into school. If dog is sick on school premises, aligned staff member will ensure that it is cleaned up in a sanitary way.	L		L
Hygiene	Pupils, staff	Stroking / contact with dog and touching mouth or food.	Children appropriately educated on how to manage canine hygiene. Reminded to wash hands by staff supervising dog. All children to wash hands before and after stroking Holly (Dog)	L		L
Hygiene	Pupils, staff	Fleas, ticks, worms etc	Dog regularly wormed and treated for flea prevention. All injections will be up to date.	L		L
Allergic reaction	Pupils, staff, visitors	Allergic reaction after contact with dog	Parents made aware that a therapy dog is in school and working with groups across the school. School aware of any allergies where possible through medical forms. Notice placed at school entrance	L		L

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			to inform all visitors about the presence of Holly (dog).			
Scratches	Pupils, staff	Dog over-excited in play or jumping up	<p>Dog kept on lead and harness when moving around.</p> <p>Children will be taught how and when to interact with the dog. All four paws must be on the ground / always ask permission.</p> <p>Dog supervised by aligned trained staff member at all times.</p>	L		L
Dog unwell	Pupils, staff	Dog in bad mood/Unhappy	Dog will not be brought into school if unwell or unhappy.	L		L
Dog phobia	Pupils, staff, visitors	Distress caused by close proximity to dog	<p>Notice placed at school entrance to inform all visitors about the presence of Holly (dog).</p> <p>Aligned staff member to supervise the dog at all times and be sensitive to the reactions of children taking part in sessions.</p> <p>Where necessary, parental consent forms to be completed. (caring for dog program / animal play).</p>	L		L
Dog bite	Pupils, staff, visitors	Dog bites someone	Aligned staff member to monitor dogs temperament, behaviour and mood.	L		L

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			<p>Aligned staff member to supervise dog at all times and use lead and harness when needed.</p> <p>Dog trained to have no teeth/mouth contact and to respond to command "No".</p> <p>Children and staff to be aware to firmly state "No" if any mouth contact is made and to withdraw any contact with dog.</p> <p>Dog undertaken full behaviour assessment with a Behaviour Specialist and Read to Dog Assessor.</p>			
Dog becoming anxious	Dog	Dog gets irritable or distressed	Dog would be removed from site if this was the case.	L		L
Dog pulling on lead.	Pupils, staff	Someone being pulled over	Dog will wear harness when working. If students are to hold lead, a training lead will be added to harness.	L		L
Dog following basic instructions	Pupil, staff, dog	Following wrong command	Dog has learned basic commands: Sit, Stay, Gently, No. These are supported by hand signals	L		L

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Dog's reactions to children's behaviour	Pupil, staff, dog	Dog becoming anxious or scared.	<p>Children educated on how to behave when dog is on school site: no running at dog, loud banging, pulling hair, all chair legs on the floor.</p> <p>Any times when these rules are not followed, the children and dog will be separated. Dog may be removed from the site.</p>	L		L
Fire alarm	Dog	Dog becoming stressed or being left in the building	Dog will have practised fire alarm procedure to become aware of alarm sound.	M	<p>Aligned staff member who is fully trained will be responsible for the removal of Holly (dog) from the building.</p> <p>Dog will be signed in as a member of staff for fire registers.</p>	L