



St Charles RC Primary School

Dogs in school risk assessment

Hazard	Who is affected/at risk	Risk rating (low, medium or high)	Actions/control measures	Person responsible
Bites and scratches	Staff, pupils and handlers	low	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dogs must have a good temperament and be used to being around children• Dogs must be well trained not to bite, scratch or jump up• Handler will remain with dog at all times• Children are taught how to approach and interact with the dog	Clare Campbell
Poor hygiene and health risks	Staff, pupils and handlers	low	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• All dogs that visit are vaccinated, wormed, and treated for fleas• All staff and pupils are required to wash their hands after contact with dogs• Handlers take dog off site to toilet and safely dispose of any waste• Dogs are not taken anywhere near food preparation areas	Clare Campbell
Allergies	Staff and pupils	low	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dog breeds are low moulting• We seek parental permission for children to interact with dogs• Alternative activities are provided in a separate room for those with allergies	Clare Campbell

Hazard	Who is affected/at risk	Risk rating (low, medium or high)	Actions/control measures	Person responsible
Phobias	Staff and pupils	low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We tell parents and children about the dog in advance • Contact with dogs is optional • Alternative activities are provided in a separate room for those with a phobia 	Clare Campbell
Activities and games involving the dog	Staff, pupils, dogs and handlers	low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Handler remains with dogs at all times • Handler speaks to school staff in advance and ensure the area and activity is safe • We check with the handler and set a limit for the number of children who can interact with a dog at once • School staff remove children who misbehave or upset dogs • We set a time limit on activities as recommended by handlers, so dogs do not get tired 	Clare Campbell
Children misbehaving	Pupils, dogs and handlers	low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children are told in advance what to expect and how to behave • School staff are present at all time during the visit • School staff are ready to remove children who misbehave or upset dogs 	Clare Campbell
Damage caused to school materials, equipment and the school site	Dogs	low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dogs are kept in secured rooms, with closed doors • Handlers bring suitable toys if necessary • Areas/classrooms are cleared as much as possible before dogs visit 	Clare Campbell