

Whitegate CofE Primary School
Health and Safety Risk Assessment for Our School Nurture Dogs
 January 2024

Hazard	Risk H M L	Persons at Risk	Control Measures	Comments / Action	Residual Risk Rating H L M
Dog excrement and urine	Low	Staff & Pupils - illness, slips and falls	Our dogs will be wormed, vaccinated and kept free of fleas and ticks. Any excrement or urine will be cleaned up immediately and thoroughly disposed of responsibly and hygienically. Hand washing facilities are in the Practical Area which is where the dogs are based. Poo bags are available at all times in the Site Maintenance Officer's room. Antibacterial spray is also available. If pupils are walking the dogs, they will immediately inform the Head teacher or duty member of staff, who will clean up the excrement.	Our dogs will be taken to the loop, at front of the school, to exercise and have comfort breaks! Any urine and excrement on school grounds will be cleaned up immediately. Puppy pads will be available in school for the younger dog, although regular comfort breaks will ensure accidents are kept to a minimum.	Low
Children getting germs from the dog	Low	Children/staff will contract diseases that can be carried by dogs.	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. The dogs will be trained to toilet in an area outside of the school that our pupils don't have access to. If an area of the school has been used, then as required, the area will then be disinfected with an appropriate animal disinfectant. All immunisations will be kept up to date and the Head teacher will keep register of this. (A copy of both dogs' vaccination certificates will be kept on file.) Flea and worming treatment are carried out according to vet's instructions. The dogs will not be permitted in any food preparation areas. All will be encouraged to wash hands after stroking/handling the dogs.	If either dog is ill, they will not be in school.	Low
Allergic reaction to our dog	Low	Staff & Pupils allergic reaction	Our dogs are kept clean and groomed. Our dogs sleep in areas that are kept well-ventilated. Our puppy will sleep in a crate. Any bedding and equipment will be washed and kept to a high standard. Regular vacuuming will be undertaken by the cleaning staff. Hand washing facilities are in Practical Area. Children will be taught to wash their hands after active participation with the dog.	Our older dog is a goldendoodle. As such he does not moult and is hypo-allergenic. Our puppy is a smooth haired dachshund with minimum moulting.	Low

			Children will have the opportunity to interact with the dogs as they wish and those with allergies will be able to opt out of interaction.		
Injuries including, scratches, dog bite	Low	Staff & Pupils – scratches and bites.	<p>Our dogs are sociable and good-natured.</p> <p>Our dogs will be closely supervised and kept under control. Pupils and staff will be made aware of the procedures and etiquette on meeting and handling him, which will be under supervision to minimise risk.</p> <p>Our puppy will not have contact with younger children whilst he is 'mouthing'; older children will be taught how to use his chew toys to prevent any contact with human flesh! This will always be under supervision.</p> <p>The dogs will be trained not to jump up at the pupils. Pupils will be taught the impact of their actions. Education of this nature will be continually given to children, and often to whole school during assemblies and PSHE lessons.</p> <p>Pupils will be taught what to do to prevent the dogs from chasing them. (i.e. stand still, cross arms).</p> <p>All staff will be introduced to the puppy and the expectations (dos and don'ts) of having school dogs.</p> <p>The dogs will attend the vets regularly to make sure their claws are kept short and they are in good health.</p> <p>First Aid kits can be found in each classroom and the Disabled Toilet.</p>	<p>The pupils are aware that an adult must put the lead on our older dog. They must not hold the lead when walking to the school field but allow him to run there on his own.</p> <p>Our puppy is a dachshund and therefore much smaller than our goldendoodle. All in school are aware that he is a potential trip hazard and must pay close attention when they are around him.</p> <p>Our goldendoodle can sometimes be anxious around unfamiliar adults, especially if they are wearing PPE or dark, black clothing. Staff members are aware of this and will put measures in place, such as removing him to the Head teacher's office.</p>	Low
Noise, barking	Medium!	Pupils who cannot cope with noise	As our dogs are introduced to school from an early age; they will become acclimatised to a noisy environment and the risk of barking will be greatly minimised.	Remove our dogs from the situation that is causing him to bark. Distract them from upset.	Low
Fire drill, evacuation of our dog	Low	Our dog locked in office	Our dogs are to be released by Head teacher, School Business Manager, or the closest member of staff, when the site is evacuated.		Low

Mrs Mackenzie will insure the dogs. The certificate will be kept in school office and will be renewed annually.

In addition to the Head teacher, Mrs Caroline Mackenzie, there are three members of staff who will be called upon in the event of the dog needing attention at any other time, they are:

1. Mr Rod Mackenzie (Site Maintenance Officer)
2. Mrs Michelle Shephard (School Business Manager)
3. Mrs Sharron Ross (Senior Leader)

Signed:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Caroline Mackenzie', written in a cursive style.

Mrs Caroline Mackenzie (Head teacher)

Date: 03.01.24