

Dogs in schools risk assessment

HAZARD	WHO IS AFFECTED/AT RISK	RISK RATING (LOW, MEDIUM, HIGH)	ACTIONS/CONTROL MEASURES	PERSON RESPONSIBLE
Bites, scratches or illness caused by the dog	Staff, pupils and handlers	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All dogs that visit are vaccinated, wormed, and treated for fleas Dogs are groomed before the visit All staff and pupils are required to wash their hands after contact with dogs Handlers clear up dog urine and faeces promptly and dispose of this safely – pupils are told to stay away 	School Staff
Allergies	Staff and pupils	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parents/carers are informed in advance of the dog being in school and asked that they notify school should they have any concerns about their child interacting with dogs. Alternative activities are provided in a separate room for those with allergies 	School Staff
Phobias	Staff and pupils	Medium	<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 	School Staff

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Activities and games involving the dog	Staff, pupils, dogs and handlers	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Handler(s) remain with dogs at all times • Handler(s) speak to school staff in advance and make sure the area and activity is safe • We check with the handler(s) and set a limit for the number of children who can interact with a dog at once • Handler(s) clean up urine and faeces • 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 	School Staff
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 	School Staff
Damage caused to school materials, equipment and the school site	Dogs	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dogs remain on a lead at all times • 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 	School Staff