

St Anthony's Girls' Catholic Academy - School Dog Risk Assessment

DIRECTORATE/ORGANISATION Education dept.	DIVISION/SECTION St Anthony's Girls' Catholic Academy	ANIMAL CARE: School Dog – Woody/Cavapoo
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Staff involved Headteacher SLT/SENCO	Advising Health/Safety officer Mrs M Lanaghan Mrs F Collins	Date completed: July 2024	Date reviewed: Annually	Accidents stats attached: N/A
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Risk Rating		Likelihood of occurrence		
		Probable	Possible	Remote
Likely Impact	Major Causing major physical injury, harm or ill-health.	H	H	M
	Severe Causes physical injury or illness requiring first aid	H	M	L
	Minor Causes physical or emotional discomfort	M	L	L

HAZARD / RISK	Risk Rating prior to action (H, M, L)	HOW CAN HAZARDS CAUSE HARM	Recommended Controls	Likelihood of occurrence	Risk rating following action (H, M, L)
Hygiene, Infection, Illness	H	Disease / Infection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Only a healthy dog obtained from accredited or high-quality sources • Cuts and abrasions on the exposed skin of hands and arms are covered before handling animals • Adequate provision for hand washing (anti-bacterial soap, hot water) readily available. Students and adults always wash their hands soon after handling animals (or coming into contact with the soil, bedding, water etc in the animal housing) • Anti-bacterial hand gel provided • Paper towels for drying hands hygienically are provided • Staff and students are instructed not to touch any part of their face with their hands before hands are washed • Soiled pet bedding disposed of in sealed plastic bags with normal refuse • Food stuffs stored carefully to prevent contamination and infestation • Checks made to ensure school dog has been regularly taken to a vet, recently been wormed and treated for fleas • All appropriate toilet facilities are provided and all waste produce, whether accidental or routine, are handled and disposed of hygienically and contaminated items and surfaces properly washed and disinfected • Staff involved are experienced in the housing, feeding, handling and care requirements • School dog is kept in a room where heating and ventilation levels are good • Flea and Worming treatment will be carried out regularly as per vet guidelines 	Possible	L

Bites and Scratches	M	Bites and Scratches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If the dog is sick, he will not come into school • School dog is suitably trained and has shown no signs of aggression. • Whilst School dog is trained, he is still an animal and there is always the possibility of an accident. First aid will be immediately sought if there are any injuries to students • Steps taken to ensure the animals are not frightened or stressed • Any animal scratches or bites are carefully washed and a first aider contacted • Students and staff are closely supervised around the dog by ML/SLT to avoid stressing the dog • School dog will not roam free. He will wear a harness, collar and lead when around others • Students are warned of the hazards of some animals 	Possible	L
Allergies	H	Illness, allergic reaction, irritation to eyes or nose, breathing problems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School dog is a cavapoo which is not a high moulting breed to reduce the chance of an allergic reaction • Students / Staff known to have allergic reactions to specific animals have no access or restricted access • Good general hygiene and hand washing followed. • Parents asked to notify the school, in writing, if a child has an allergy to dogs. • A note of pupils who should not interact with the dog will be kept on Arbor • Records kept on Staff T drive of those with allergies to animals. Updated by A Perrett as required. 	Possible	L

Phobias	H	Anxiety, panic attacks, upset	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parents asked to notify the school, in writing, if a child is scared of close contact with dogs. • A note of pupils who should not interact with the dog will be kept on Arbor • Students / Staff known to have phobias to specific animals have no access or restricted access • Visitors advised that a dog is in the Headteacher's office and will be removed if requested . Notice in school entrance and on website. 	Probable	L
Animal Welfare	L	Harm to the animal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School dog is fitted with the correct size collar/harness • School dog will be put on his lead prior to exercise • School dog will be kept on a lead whilst in the building outside of Mrs Lanaghan's office • During exercise school dog may be allowed to run and play with the students after clear instructions have been given and are understood • Staff member will issue clear and effective instructions to ensure that students are familiar with the route used and the area they are in i.e general layout, checking exits are secure, prior to taking school dog outside • Staff will ensure that school dog is supervised back into the HT room • Staff will take steps to avoid, as far as reasonably practicable unknown persons coming into contact with school dog • Arrangements in place for care during holidays/weekends 	Remote	L

Claims made against the school	M	Financial cost to the School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Headteacher will insure the dog's medical needs • Liability insurance will be held and reviewed annually • Register of school dog's health checks, (vaccinations etc.) and vet's visits will be kept in school as well as at the vet's surgery 	Possible	L
Fire Alarm/ Evacuation	H	Dog left unattended	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Member of staff supervising the school dog will lead the dog off the school site. 	Possible	L

