



Risk Assessment Area: School Dog



Assessment Completed by: Gareth Griffith

Date:
September 2025

Workplace: High Littleton Church of England Primary School

Employer: MNSP

Hazard	Risk	Risk (prior to controls) 1-5*	Likelihood (1-5)	Controls put in place	Risk after control
Dog getting over excited when interacting with children	Child knocked to ground	1	2	<p>The breed of dog (Golden Retriever) that has been chosen by Mr Griffith is one that has a very calm, sensitive and reliable temperament. They are known to be very good with children and other animals.</p> <p>The dog will always be in the care of a responsible adult and will not be allowed to freely roam the school premises during times when there is a risk that pupils will be present.</p> <p>Children will never be left with the dog unsupervised. Children actively involved with the dog will be from year 2 upwards, as younger children may be more prone to act unpredictably and therefore pose a greater risk.</p> <p>The dog will always be on a lead when it is out of its pen, except when it is undergoing structured training with its handler. The dog is trained to not jump up, or mouth anybody.</p> <p>Pupils will be taught what to do to prevent the dog from chasing them, for instance: stand still and cross their arms. The dog has undergone formal training.</p>	1
	Child scratched by dog	3	2		1
	Child bitten by dog	4	2		1
Dog getting loose from its pen or from its lead	As above	1	2	The dog will be based in the Headteacher's office at the front of school. This is a secure area with a soft bed and water. If the dog gets loose from the office then the Head Teacher or office staff will be informed immediately. There will be two members of staff who can be called upon to help with the dog at any time. They are: Mr Griffith and Mrs Smith.	1
Allergic reaction	Children have allergic reactions	1	1	Parents will be asked to inform the school of any known allergies prior to the introduction of the dog to school. A list of any children who should not interact with the dog will be kept on the school system.	1

				<p>Children will have the opportunity to interact with the dog as they wish and those with allergies will be able to opt out of interaction if they wish to do so.</p> <p>Children will be taught to wash their hands after active participation with the dog. Younger children will be supervised when doing this. There will also be wipes available for use.</p>	
Children getting germs from the dog	Children/staff will contract diseases that can be carried by dogs	1	1	<p>Should the dog defecate on the school site Mr Griffith will clear this up immediately and dispose of it in a safe manner (in a designated bin).</p> <p>All immunisations (including rabies vaccination) will be kept up to date in accordance with the European Vet guidelines.</p> <p>Worming treatment will be carried out in line with European Vet guidelines and the puppy will also undergo treatment to prevent lungworm. The dog will not go into the school dining hall at meal times.</p>	1
Financial cost of the dog's upkeep	School unable to afford on-going cost of the dog's day to day upkeep or medical bills	1	1	The dog will be the responsibility of Mr Griffith and he will be financially responsible for all its care and day to day costs. The dog will also be the responsibility of Mr Griffith outside of school hours.	1
Claim is made against school re: the behaviour of the dog	School not adequately covered financially	1	1	Mr Griffith will insure the dog. The insurance will be renewed annually and the certificate will be kept with the other school dog paperwork and would be available to be seen upon demand by any parent/carer or staff member.	1

Signed	Date	Next Review/Assessment:
	September 2025	September 2026